

Documents on the Korean Crisis

1. Cairo Declaration of December 1, 1943

The several military missions have agreed upon future military operations against Japan. The Three Great Allies* expressed their resolve to bring unrelenting pressure against their brutal enemies by sea, land, and air. This pressure is already rising.

The Three Great Allies are fighting this war to restrain and punish the aggression of Japan. They covet no gain for themselves and have no thought of territorial expansion. It is their purpose that Japan shall be stripped of all the islands in the Pacific which she has seized or occupied since the beginning of the first World War in 1914, and that all the territories Japan has stolen from the Chinese, such as Manchuria, Formosa, and the Pescadores, shall be restored to the Republic of China. Japan will also be expelled from all other territories which she has taken by violence and greed. The aforesaid three great powers, mindful of the enslavement of the people of Korea, are determined that in due course Korea shall become free and independent.

With these objects in view the three Allies, in harmony with those of the United Nations at war with Japan, will continue to persevere in the serious and prolonged operations necessary to procure the unconditional surrender of Japan.

2. Excerpt from Potsdam Proclamation of July 26, 1945. (Paragraph 8)

The terms of the Cairo Declaration shall be carried out and Japanese sovereignty shall be limited to the islands of Honshu, Hokkaido, Kyushu, Shikoku and such minor islands as we determine.

3. Note from the Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations, to the Secretary General of the United Nations, September 26, 1950: (Canadian Army Special Force).

I have the honour to refer to my Note of August 14, 1950, transmitting a copy of the Prime Minister's statement of August 7, 1950, concerning the recruitment of the Canadian Army's Special Force which would be specially trained and equipped to be available for use in carrying out Canada's undertakings under the United Nations Charter or the North Atlantic Treaty. The Prime Minister also indicated that, subject to the approval of the Parliament of Canada, this Special Force would be available for service in Korea as part of the United Nations Forces, if it could be most effectively used in this way when it was ready for service.

I am instructed to inform you that this Special Force has now been recruited and is undergoing training and that its use for service with the United Nations Forces in Korea has been authorized.

*United States of America, United Kingdom and China.