

situation was not repeat not good. There were problems between the UK and the USSR as joint chairmen of the Geneva Conference. He hoped that Canada would continue to use its influence to bring about a solution.

15. On South Vietnam, Mr. Ikeda said the USA seemed uncertain whether to send troops in or not repeat not. Japan had a direct interest in South Vietnam as a country to which it was providing reparations and other forms of assistance. He said the Japanese Government would discuss this further with Mr. Rusk this week and acquaint him with Japan's worries that the despatch of troops to South Vietnam might result in repercussions throughout the area. Japan thought that the South Vietnamese Government should be buttressed with economic aid. The Foreign Minister added that the sending of military forces by the USA would have an adverse effect on the situation in Laos. Mr. Ikeda said he hoped that Canada would also express the opinion to the USA that the sending of forces to Vietnam was not repeat not desirable at this stage and was not repeat not a matter which should be left entirely to the judgement of the USA. Mr. Diefenbaker made no repeat no comment.

16. On the question of the Canada-Japan Ministerial Committee Mr. Ikeda said formation of the proposed committee would facilitate solutions to economic problems and improve cultural relations. There was a large imbalance against Japan in the trade between the two countries, and Japan would like to see an amicable solution to this problem. He said that before Mr. Diefenbaker's departure he hoped to agree if possible on a date for the initial meeting of the committee. Prime Minister Diefenbaker said that he knew the Japanese wanted a meeting in January. He said he could not repeat not agree to any particular date at this stage because of uncertainty about the parliamentary timetable. He recognized the anxiety of the Japanese Government to get the Ministerial Committee going and he wanted to be cooperative. The Japanese Government could rest assured that the meeting would be held at the earliest possible date.

17. Prime Minister Diefenbaker said he would have something to say on trade in his speech later in the day.<sup>73</sup>

[W.F.] BULL

804.

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*L'ambassadeur au Japon  
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Ambassador in Japan  
to Secretary of State for External Affairs*

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VISIT OF PRIME MINISTER TO JAPAN –  
TALK WITH PRIME MINISTER IKEDA (OCTOBER 31)

On Sunday, October 29, Ambassador Ushiba told me that there was some feeling among officials that there had not repeat not been sufficient time to discuss trade during Mr. Diefenbaker's meeting with Mr. Ikeda on Saturday, October 28 and that Mr. Diefenbaker had

<sup>73</sup> Voir « Voyage de M. Diefenbaker au Japon », *Affaires extérieures*, vol. 13, n° 12 (décembre 1961), pp. 414 à 418.

See "Mr. Diefenbaker Visits Japan," *External Affairs*, Vol. 13, No. 12 (December 1961), pp. 406-10.