

PRIME MINISTER OF THE UNITED KINGDOM VISITS OTTAWA

—Capital Press

Mr. C. R. Attlee, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, visited Ottawa on December 9 and 10 and discussed with Canadian Government leaders the conference he had had with President Truman in Washington. Above he is shown with the Prime Minister, Mr. L. S. St. Laurent.

major foreign policy speeches* in which he outlined a possible basis for negotiation of a settlement. In his first speech, Mr. Pearson urged that "as soon as circumstances make it possible" we must again endeavour to reconcile "the determination of the United Nations to resist aggression," with "whatever legitimate interests the Chinese may have in the future of Korea and the adjacent area". In line with this policy, Mr. Pearson recommended, on the following day, that: "In this dangerous situation, it remains our view that, if and when the military position is stabilized, we should try to begin negotiations with the Chinese Communists by every means possible. I am aware of the difficulties, I assure you, but I believe that nothing should be left undone which might conceivably result in an honourable and peaceful settlement in Korea. If, for example, providing the military situation is stabilized, there could be a cease-fire followed by negotiations—possibly covering more subjects than Korea—in which the Chinese Communists would participate, there might still be hope of reaching such a settlement."

At the same time that Mr. Pearson was suggesting "a cease-fire" agreement, thirteen Asian and Middle Eastern countries appealed to the Peking Government and the North Korean authorities to declare that their forces would not cross the 38th parallel. "Such a declaration" the appeal pointed out, would "give time for considering what further steps are necessary to resolve the conflict in the Far East, thus helping to avert another world war." The appeal was transmitted to General Wu with a request that he forward it immediately to his Government in Peking. Soon after, General Wu reported that Peking was carefully considering the appeal, and desired to "bring the fighting to an end as soon as possible." The free nations anxiously waited to see whether these efforts to establish a basis for negotiations would restore some degree of peace and stability in the Far East and thus lessen the danger of general war in the world.

^{*} See pp. 434 and 437.