

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 790030

SECRET

13 August 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. FORRESTAL.

SUBJECT: Obstructive tactics of the Canadian Member of the United Nations Temporary Commission on Korea.

1. General. The United Nations Temporary Commission on Korea (UNTCOK) was constituted by resolutions passed by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in November 1947. UNTCOK was given the general mission of:

- a. Observing an election in both occupation zones of Korea;
- b. Advising and consulting with the elected Koreans in the formation of a government for all Korea.

This government, according to the UNGA resolutions was then to form its own security forces and arrange with the occupying powers to assume the functions now performed by the Military Governments of the two zones. After formation of a Korean government, the occupying powers were to withdraw their troops from Korea.

2. Shortly after their arrival in Korea, in January 1948, it became apparent to the UNTCOK, that carrying out a country-wide election would be impossible in view of the Soviet refusal to allow them to enter North Korea. Considerable dissension then arose among the Commissioners as to whether they should proceed to observe an election in South Korea alone or whether they should take some other action. Inspiring the opposition to a South Korean election were Commissioners Samuel H. Jackson of Australia and George S. Patterson of Canada. Subsequently, the UNTCOK referred the matter to the United Nations Interim Committee, the "Little Assembly" which voted in favor of proceeding in that portion of Korea to which UNTCOK had access, in other words, in the American zone only. In spite of this decision, Jackson and Patterson continued their opposition to observing a South Korean election, claiming that the Little Assembly resolution was only advice and not an order. The UNTCOK, nevertheless, decided in March by a split vote of 4 to 2, with Jackson and Patterson in opposition, to observe an election in South Korea on 10 May.

3. As the implications of the obstructive tactics by the Australian and Canadian Commissioners became more and more significant, the Department of the Army made strong representations to the Department of State in the premises and the latter communicated with Canberra and Ottawa in June. In addition, the Department of State made personal overtures to Governmental representatives in Washington. Canada has met the issue, probably more for the reason that Mackenzie King, who is largely responsible for Canada's negative attitude, appeared to be relaxing his position as he neared retirement. There is also to be noted, the apparent reaction on Patterson who reportedly resents the accusation that his actions brand him as a "tool of the Russians" and "anti-American". He has advised the U.S. Command in Korea that his attitude toward the Korean problem is completely divorced from any questions of his feelings toward the United States. CIA reported that Patterson received a very strong note from his government.

4. This matter received consideration on the highest level in the form of correspondence between the President and Mr. Mackenzie King.

5. The effectiveness of these efforts to bring Australia and Canada into line was demonstrated by the UNTCOK action on 25 June when it took two steps forward in fulfillment of the UN resolutions on Korea. After over a month of hickering, primarily over efforts of Jackson and Patterson to include

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By PAV NARA, Date 2/15/94

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critical and derogatory (of U.S.) material into UNTCOK's report of the 10 May elections, the UNTCOK unanimously (following the departure of Jackson for Australia, and his subsequent replacement by Mr. Jamieson) approved a letter to the Korean National Assembly accepting an invitation to attend a session of that Assembly. The UNTCOK simultaneously adopted a resolution that recognized that the results of the 10 May elections were a valid expression of the freewill of two-thirds of the Korean people (U.S. zone), and hence complimentary to U.S. efforts in Korea. General Hodge reported that this action brought the UNTCOK up-to-date in moves paralleling the development of the Korean Government. Later, USAFIK reported that general results of UNTCOK, in spite of all difficulties and shortcomings, were satisfactory.

6. Conclusions. It is concluded that:

a. Past history of UNTCOK has shown evidence of Communistic tendencies on the part of the Australian and Canadian members inclining toward mitigating UNTCOK's effectiveness.

b. U.S. governmental representations to date, to both Australia and Canada, as well as other governments, have been as effective as can be expected in securing appropriate realization of U.S. aims in Korea through UNTCOK.

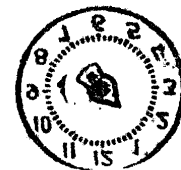
COORDINATION:

State Dept informed (Mr. N. Bond, S-2636)

A. C. WEDEMEXER
Lieutenant General, GSC
Director of Plans & Operations

Copies furnished:

Mr. Royall
General Bradley



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title—a peerless dignity—the most distinguished in our power to bestow.

MUSIC

(Faith resumes her seat. Wisdom steps forward and says):

WISDOM—WISDOM embraces the whole of practical knowledge. It is that perfection of an intelligent agent by which he is enabled to select and employ the most useful means in order to accomplish proper and substantial results. An ancient lawgiver, being asked if his code of laws was the best that could be given his countrymen, replied: "It is the best they are capable of receiving"—a profound utterance, easily comprehended and applicable to human life in our day.

"There was a little city," says the Preacher, "and few men within it; and there came a great king against it and besieged it, and built great bulwarks about it. Now, there was found in it a poor wise man, and he, by his wisdom, delivered the city; yet no man remembered that same poor man. Then, said I, 'Wisdom is better than strength'; nevertheless, the poor man's wisdom is despised, and his words are not heard."

Should your efforts of usefulness be met by indifference and ingratitude, be not discouraged thereby. The code of regulations of this degree

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COORDINATION:

State Dept informed (Mr. N. Bond, 6-2635)

A. C. WEINMEYER
Lieutenant General, USAF
Director of Plans & Operations

Copies furnished:

Mr. Royall
General Bradley



MAR 28 1953

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