SECRET SECURITY INFORMATION

Incoming Telegram

Department of State

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FROM: New York

To: Secretary of State

NO: DIBOA 124, November 4, 6:42 p.m.

Re Korea:

At mtg this morning between Lloyd, Jebb, Gross, Ross and Allen, Lloyd reviewed situation re Menon's proposal as follows:

1. Its three main elements are: (A) Statement of principle that all FW's should be released and repatriated in accordance with Geneva convention; (B) statement that no force shall be used in connection their repatriation; and (C) recommendation that foregoing be carried out by releasing FW's from custody of detaining power and transferring them to custody of neutral observation commission provided for in truce agreement which would act in capacity of protecting power. All FW's willing return home would be promptly returned; rest would remain in custody of neutral commission for present.

2. Menon has in mind that foregoing would be embodied in amendment to 21-power joint resolution (thus it would be voted on first). Res as approved would then be transmitted to both UC and Comite authorities as basis for further negotiations and for agreement on practical details at Panmunjom. Thus, such practical questions as, for example, whether unrepatriables would be held in custody of neutral commission in present camp, in neutral zone or elsewhere would be worked out at Panmunjom. This amendment would involve inter alia deleting para 2 of joint res which Indians claim find objectionable as endorsing recent UC military moves and probably para 5 and replacing para 8 along above lines.

3. As to timing presentation this plan Menon now thinking of outlining it in speech in Comite One perhaps at end of this week but Lloyd believed he did persuade Menon not submit any formal proposal at that time. Menon told Lloyd that he and not Mrs. Pandit would handle this matter.

In response to Lloyd's question Gross stated that in principle the idea of turning FW's over to custody of some neutral body seems consistent with proposals already put forward by UC and therefore not objectionable to US. However, while stating we of course are...
of course are not adamant against accepting any amendments to joint res, Gross expressed some concern that Menon's effort to provide an apparently new and face-saving statement on repatriation might result in statement so vague as to mean different things to both sides, thus leaving US open to charges of bad faith and recriminations and placing US in difficult position, particularly if despite these efforts no armistice resulted. Lloyd takes view that as long as statement that no force shall be used is explicitly included, we could accept almost any wording of general principle of repatriation.

Lloyd agreed press Menon, whom he is meeting again Thursday, for concrete written statement of his proposal and to seek prevent him from submitting anything to Comite in immediate future.

We agreed that despite large number present and impending addl proposals we have been successful so far and situation generally satisfactory since Indians and all others except Sov bloc now apparently firmly committed to principle that no force shall be used to return FW's. Lloyd thinks Canad del no longer plans take any steps re their draft res (DELGA 105 Nov 3).

We also discussed Schuman's present intention speak in plenary when general debate reopens Monday, Nov. 10. We agreed this undesirable both (1) because it will give insufficient time for fruitful consultations between Schuman and Acheson and Eden, and (2) because it would interrupt Korean question by injecting Tunisia and Morocco in manner likely precipitate long and bitter debate with Arab-Africans. However, since Eden plans remain New York only next week imposible postpon general debate until Comite One finishes Korea, and thus second difficulty unavoidable. Nevertheless, Lloyd telegraphing London and Paris to seek persuade Schuman to postpone his speech until later in the week, thus providing more time for US and UK consultations with him.

AUSTIN