

Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission
for Korea

SWISS DELEGATION

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Panmunjom, 12. Juni 1956.
Re/pr

Bericht No. 158

Herr Bundesrat,

1. a) Die 259. NNSC-Sitzung vom 8. Juni 1956 war vom polnischen Wochenpräsidenten nach Konsultierung der übrigen Kommissionsmitglieder auf abends 2215 Uhr einberufen worden. Anlass hiezu gab ein vom UNC-Chefdelegierten, General Gard, etwa zwei Stunden vorher eingegangenes Schreiben (Beilage), worin der Kommission eröffnet wurde, dass die unterm 31. Mai angekündigte vorläufige Einstellung der Tätigkeit der NNSC und ihrer Inspektions-teams in Südkorea (Bericht No. 157, Ziff. 1 ff.) am folgenden Tag, d.h. am 9. Juni 1956 in Kraft treten werde und die drei Subteams von Inchon, Kusan und Pusan auf den gleichen Zeitpunkt in die Demilitarisierte Zone zurückzuführen seien. Diese Mitteilung, welche die NNSC-Empfehlung vom 5. Juni 1956 an MAC mit Stillschweigen übergang, bedeutete eine umso grössere Ueberraschung, als sich General Gard mir gegenüber noch am Vortage anlässlich meines informellen Besuches in seinem Hauptquartier in Munsan-ni dahingehend geäußert hatte, dass eine plötzliche Ausweisung nicht zu erwarten sei, vielmehr den Teammitgliedern eine wenn auch knappe so doch vernünftige Frist eingeräumt werde.

Dass dieses von der Südseite angewandte Prozedere einmal mehr den Unwillen der Polen und Tschechen herausforderte, war nicht verwunderlich. Auch meinerseits konnte ich nicht umhin, der Missbilligung über die unschickliche Behandlungsweise, welche unbestreitbar den Gepflogenheiten internationaler Courtoisie nicht genügend Rechnung trug, bestimmten Ausdruck zu verleihen. Mein schwedischer Kollege enthielt sich eines bezüglichen Kommentars, immerhin mit dem Vorbehalt, allenfalls auf diesen Aspekt zurückzukommen. Er wollte vorerst seine Regierung konsultieren. - Die Kommission beriet alsdann die Frage entsprechender Instruktionen an die Teams. Während eines Sitzungsunterbruches, der bis über morgens ein Uhr andauerte, wurde der Text der ein-

Herrn Bundesrat Max Petitpierre
Chef des Eidg. Politischen Departements

B e r n

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heitlichen Instruktionen festgelegt, dahin lautend, dass sämtliche Subteams sowohl aus dem Süden wie dem Norden gestützt auf den formellen NNSC-Beschluss "sobald als möglich" geschlossen ins Hauptquartier nach Panmunjom zurückkehren sollen. Ferner einigte man sich auf ein Schreiben an die Waffenstillstandskommission (Beilage), worin eine weitere Stellungnahme zu den Briefen der Chefdelegierten beider Seiten vom 7. bzw. 8. Juni 1956 vorbehalten und sodann der NNSC-Entscheid über den Rückzug der Teams notifiziert wurde.

Dem schweizerischen Exekutivsekretär war die Weiterleitung der vorerwähnten Instruktionen an die einzelnen Teams übertragen worden. Glücklicherweise stand hierzu für den Süden neben dem Fernschreiber noch eine telephonische Verbindung zur Verfügung. Letzterer war es denn auch zu verdanken, dass sämtliche Südteams noch im Verlaufe der Nacht bzw. des anbrechenden Morgens orientiert werden konnten. Damit war die Gefahr der Verwirrung oder gar von Unannehmlichkeiten in den Aussenposten gebannt, die umso ernster erschien, als Polen und Tschechen interne Weisungen erhalten hatten, ohne ausdrückliche Instruktionen aus dem NNSC-Hauptquartier ihre Posten nicht zu verlassen.

b) Wie ich Ihnen u.a. bereits auf schnellstem Wege mitgeteilt habe, traf am 9. Juni 1956 ein weiteres Schreiben vom UNC-Chefdelegierten ein (Beilage). General Gard drückt darin sein Bedauern aus, dass sich die MAC nicht auf eine gemeinsame Ermächtigung zuhanden der NNSC betreffend den Rückzug der Teams habe einigen können. Man kann indessen kaum die Frage unterdrücken, warum die Südseite nicht wenigstens ihrerseits eine solche Ermächtigung im Sinne der NNSC-Empfehlung vom 5. Juni erteilt habe, nachdem doch General Gard in der MAC-Sitzung vom 7. Juni 1956 zweimal erklärte, das UNC sei einverstanden, dass die MAC die NNSC zum Rückzug der Teams ermächtige. Die Antwort hierauf liegt im nächsten Absatz des Schreibens von General Gard, woraus unmissverständlich hervorgeht, dass die UNC-Seite nicht mehr geneigt war von ihrer ultimativen Rückzugsforderung vom 31. Mai abzurücken.

c) Beiliegend finden Sie für Ihre Sammlung die Protokolle der 256. und 257. NNSC-Sitzungen vom 4. und 5. Juni 1956 (je zwei Exemplare). - Sodann lege ich zu Ihrer vollständigen Dokumentierung das Protokoll der 72. MAC-Sitzung vom 7. Juni 1956 bei. Hervorzuheben sind daraus insbesondere:

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die Haltung der Nordseite bezüglich des Teamrückzuges (S. 2, 3, 6 und 7), sowie die UNC-Erklärung betr. Fortsetzung der Rapportierung der Personal- und Materialbewegungen an die NNSC (S. 8) und schliesslich die Bestätigung der ultimativen Note vom 31. Mai 1956 (S. 11).

2. Es ist hier auch heute noch nicht leicht, die wirklichen Motive zu erkennen, welche die Südseite und insbesondere die Amerikaner bei ihrem Entschluss zur einseitigen Suspendierung der NNSC in Südkorea bestimmt haben. Ohne Zweifel war die militante anti-NNSC Einstellung Syngman Rhee ein wesentlicher Faktor. Aus Gesprächen mit höheren amerikanischen Dienststellen gewann man immer wieder den Eindruck, dass das Damokles - Schwert eines Aufflackerns neuer und wenn möglich noch ernsterer Demonstrationen den verantwortlichen Instanzen schwer zu schaffen machte. In dieser Beziehung brachte der "Coup" vom 31. Mai 1956 sicherlich die seit längerer Zeit erhoffte Befreiung von einer drückenden Hypothek.

Andererseits fragt man sich aber doch, ob dieser Beweggrund allein ausreichte, das UNC-Lager zur einseitigen de facto Aufhebung gewisser Partien des Waffenstillstandsvertrages zu verleiten. Dem aufmerksamen Beobachter kann in diesem Zusammenhang nicht entgehen, mit welcher Hartnäckigkeit seit Monaten hochgestellte amerikanische Militärs wie Politiker immer wieder hervorhoben, die Südseite sei in eine militärisch benachteiligte Lage geraten, da die Bestimmungen bezüglich Einfuhr von Kriegsmaterial (AA Para 13d) von der Nordseite fortgesetzt umgangen worden seien. Ich habe Sie über diesen Aspekt fortwährend dokumentiert gehalten. Die systematische Betonung dieses militärischen Gesichtspunktes war übrigens gerade in den letzten Wochen besonders auffällig, wo leitende Persönlichkeiten, wie der Vorsitzende des amerikanischen Generalstabes Admiral Radford, der stellvertretende U.S.-Verteidigungssekretär R.B. Robertson und andere, unter Berufung auf die militärische Unhaltbarkeit der Situation eine Handlungsänderung der UNC-Seite nachdrücklich befürworteten (siehe etwa Bericht No.154, Ziff.4). Kürzlich äusserte sich der Kommandant der amerikanischen Bodestreitkräfte in Korea, General I.D. White, laut "Stars and Stripes" vom 8. Juni in ähnlichem Sinne. General White erklärte u.a., die "peinlich genaue Einhaltung des AA, das

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jede Verstärkung untersage, habe die 8. Armee verhindert, Waffen neuesten Modells zu erhalten". Die Abhilfe hiezu liege ausserhalb seiner Kompetenz, "but I would like to have an army equipped with the most modern weapons available, the same ones American troops are equipped with in other parts of the world".

In diesem Zusammenhang interessiert auch eine private Aeusserung des amerikanischen Geschäftsträgers in Seoul, Carl Strom, der am 3. Juni zusammen mit dem britischen Gesandten, Minister Stewart, bei mir in Panmunjom Gast war. Strom unterstrich, dass die Aufhebung der Inspektionsteams im Süden absolut notwendig sei und militärischen Ueberlegungen entspringe. Es handle sich um eine "Selbstschutzmassnahme" angesichts der illegalen Ausrüstung in Nordkorea, welche die U.N. Streitkräfte im Süden schwer benachteilige. Ich machte den amerikanischen Geschäftsträger darauf aufmerksam, dass die Einstellung der NNSC-Tätigkeit im Süden m.E. an sich keine Korrektur bringe, nachdem das Kommando der Vereinten Nationen ja selber feierlich erklärt habe, es werde das Waffenstillstandsabkommen, einschliesslich Art.13, weiterhin respektieren. Auf meine Frage wie er sich durch die Massnahme gegen die NNSC eine Verbesserung der militärischen Lage im Süden vorstelle, antwortete mir Mr. Strom, wenn einmal die Inspektionsteams zu funktionieren aufgehört hätten, so müsste sich das UNC wohl oder übel über die Waffeneinfuhrbestimmungen des AA hinwegsetzen. "We just have to forget about Art. 13 of the AA". Dieser Ausspruch hat natürlich rein privaten Charakter. Er ist aber symptomatisch für die Denkweise, wie man sie hier bei Amerikanern wie Südkoreanern immer wieder feststellt.

3. Der Rückzug der Subteams begann am vergangenen Samstag mit der Rückführung der Teams aus dem Süden auf dem Luftweg; die Aktion war sorgfältig vorbereitet und verlief ohne Zwischenfälle. Bei den Zwischenlandungen in Seoul (Flugplatz Kimpo) wurde das NNSC-Personal von einem Heer von Journalisten und Pressephotographen belauert, die dem ganzen einen spektakulären Anstrich verliehen. - Heute Dienstagvormittag trafen sodann aus dem Norden kommend die drei Teams von Sinuiju, Manpo und Sinanju eben-

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falls wohlbehalten per Bahn in Kaesong ein. Dort wurde ihnen ein Massenempfang mit Blumengebinden usw. klassisch-kommunistischen Musters zuteil, der auch die Gemüter der Schweizer nicht unberührt liess. Damit ist die Rückzugsoption als solche zum Abschluss gelangt.

Genehmigen Sie, Herr Bundesrat, die Versicherung meiner ausgezeichneten Hochachtung.

F. Real

FRITZ REAL,
Chef der schweizerischen
Delegation in der NNSC für Korea

Beilagen:

1. Brief Gen. Gard vom 8. Juni 1956 ✓
2. Brief NNSC an MAC vom 9. Juni 1956 ✓
3. Brief Gen. Gard vom 9. Juni 1956 ✓
4. Protokolle 256. und 257. NNSC-Sitzungen ✓
für Sammlung
5. Protokoll 72. MAC-Sitzung ✓

Verteiler:

<u>Chef des Eidg. Politischen Departements</u>	(3) m.B. 1-5
Chef des Personellen der Armee	(1)
Legation Tokyo	(1)
Delegationschef	(2)
Sekretariat	(1)

C O P Y

UNITED NATIONS COMMAND
MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION
APO 72

8 June 1956

TO: Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission
FROM: United Nations Command Military Armistice Commission

1. With reference to Paragraph 2 of my letter dated 31 May 1956, you are hereby informed that the United Nations Command is suspending performance on its part of those provisions of the Armistice Agreement governing operations of the NNSC and the NNISTS in the area under the control of the United Nations Command effective 9 June 1956. The United Nations Command will expect withdrawal of the teams to the DMZ on that date.

2. Administrative details incident to this move will be provided through normal liaison channels.

R. G. GARD
Major General, USA
Senior Member

C O P Y

Panmunjom, 9 June 1956.

From: Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission
To: Military Armistice Commission

The Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission has the honour to confirm the receipt of the letter from Senior Member KPA/CPV Side, Major General Jung Kook Rok, dated June 7, 1956, and from Senior Member UNC Side, Major General R.G. Gard, dated June 8, 1956.

The Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission reserves itself the right to return to these letters and to the problems connected with them at a later date.

The Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission wishes to advise you that it has decided to instruct the NNIST:S that they are to suspend their supervisory, inspection and control activities in the respective ports of entry effective June 9, 1956, 0001 hours local time and to return to Panmunjom as soon as transportation facilities requested by this Commission can be made available to them.

Minister Morski
Polish Member NNSC

Minister Real
Swiss Member NNSC

Colonel Lejnar
Czechoslovak Alternate Member NNSC

General Bergenstrahle
Swedish Member NNSC

C O P Y

UNITED NATIONS COMMAND
MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION
APO 72

9 June 1956

TO: Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission
FROM: United Nations Command Military Armistice Commission

In regard to the unanimous recommendation of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission transmitted to me by letter dated 5 June 1956, it is regretted that the Military Armistice Commission was unable to agree to authorize the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission to carry out its recommendation.

The record of the Seventy-second Military Armistice Commission Meeting held 7 June 1956, and my letter of 8 June 1956, constitute the reply of the United Nations Command side to your letter of 5 June 1956.

I have received and noted the contents of your letter of 9 June 1956 to the Military Armistice Commission.

R. G. GARD
Major General, USA
Senior Member

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 4 June 1956
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NEUTRAL NATIONS SUPERVISORY COMMISSION

VERBATIM RECORD OF THE 256th PLENARY MEETING

held at Headquarters, Panmunjom, on Monday,
4 June 1956, at 1600 hours.

CONTENTS: 1. Statement of the Swedish Member, Maj. Gen. Bergenstrahle, concerning the question of provisional withdrawal of the NNIST:S.

PRESENT: CHAIRMAN: Minister Morski, Poland
 MEMBERS: Minister Real, Switzerland
 General Taus, Czechoslovakia
 General Bergenstrahle, Sweden
 SECRETARIAT: 1/Lt. Hagenbuechle, Switzerland
 Executive Secretary.

1. Statement of the Swedish Member, Maj. Gen. Bergenstrahle, concerning the question of provisional withdrawal of the NNIST:S.

CHAIRMAN: Today's Meeting of NNSC has been called at the request of the Swedish Colleague who has a statement to make. The agenda will have only one point i.e. The statement of the Swedish Member.

GENERAL BERGENSTRAHLE: With your permission, I would like to make the following statement.

After the UN Command having announced its intention to suspend provisionally the performance on its part of those provisions of the AA which govern the operations of the NNSC and the NNIT:S in the area under the control of the UN Command, it is obviously not possible for teams to operate any longer in the area in question.

It seems evident to me that in this situation the NNIT:S cannot reasonably continue their supervising activities only in the area under the control of the KPA/CPV Command.

In this situation, which has arisen in consequence of the letter to NNSC from Senior Member UNC/MAC dated 31 May 1956, I have the honour to propose that NNSC decides to recommend to MAC to agree to a provisional withdrawal of all remaining NNIT:S to the Demilitarized Zone.

A withdrawal of the teams is moreover in line with the proposal made through diplomatic channels by the Swedish Government to the Government of the People's Republic of China in this question, a proposal to which the latter Government - as far as I am informed - is now in favour.

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MINISTER REAL: I have listened with interest to the statement of my Honourable Swedish Colleague. For my part I reserve the right to make a statement later on. I agree that we attempt to draft a letter to MAC concerning withdrawal of the fix teams, though I may not be in a position to agree to the letter today; but I am ready to discuss such a letter.

CHAIRMAN: I trust that we shall agree upon sending a letter to MAC. I reserve the right to express myself at a later date both on some of the points raised by our Honourable Swedish Colleague and in particular on some of the objectionable features of the letter which we received from the UNC-Side. At the moment there is only one point I should like our Swedish Colleague to clarify, if possible.

In the closing part of his statement he refers to the proposal of the Swedish Government. I presume the proposal referred to is the one of March 10, 1956, made through diplomatic channels to the Government of People's Republic of China. As far as I know, that proposal contains two parts - one concerning the temporary withdrawal of the NNIST:S to Panmunjom and the other concerning the stipulation that the Commission should have the right to send its teams to the ports of entry. My understanding of this problem is that it is on the basis of these two stipulations that the Government of the People's Republic of China expresses its consent to the Swedish proposal. Therefore I do not think, that the unconditional withdrawal in view of the position taken by the UNC - Side could be regarded as being entirely in line with the said proposal of the Swedish Government.

GENERAL BERGENSTRAHLE: The only answer I can give to your question is that we consider this new proposal being in line with the proposal made lately to the People's Republic of China.

GENERAL TAUS: I have carefully and with attention listened to the statement made by the Honourable Swedish Member regarding the withdrawal of inspection subteams from the ports of entry and regarding other related questions at the moment.

After the explanation presented by the Honourable Swedish Member, General Bergenstrahle, I am prepared to discuss the draft of the letter in the proposed recess, although we may not come to a definite conclusion because the Honourable Swiss Member is not prepared to take up any final position on this issue.

MINISTER REAL: When I said that I might not be in a position to accept the letter today, it was because I wanted to give the Chair an opportunity to consider what to do when the recess ends and we should not have a letter ready for signature.

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CHAIRMAN: Let us hope for the best. However, I think we will have besides the Swedish draft some other drafts in order to make it easier for us to compare the measures ridding the illusion. It is better to make a recess to discuss the question on various drafts. If it is agreeable to you, we will declare a recess and resume the Meeting at the time when we are ready.

It was agreed to have a recess.

(Meeting recessed at 1625 hours.)
(Meeting resumed at 1840 hours.)

CHAIRMAN: During the recess we have basically agreed on the draft of the letter to MAC, and we have also decided to postpone the reading and signing of this letter until tomorrow, 1400 hours, when we shall reconvene.

It was so decided.

Meeting adjourned at 1845 hours.

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NEUTRAL NATIONS SUPERVISORY COMMISSION

PARTLY VERBATIM RECORD OF THE 257th PLENARY MEETING

held at Headquarters, Fannunjom, on Tuesday,
5 June 1956, at 1400 hours.

- CONTENTS:
1. Approval of the agenda of the 257th Meeting.
 2. Approval of the record of the 255th Meeting.
 3. Letter from Senior Member KPA/CPV - MAC Maj. Gen. Jung Kook Rok, dated 4 June 1956 concerning provisional withdrawal of the NNIST:S and related questions.
 4. Draft letter from NNSC to MAC concerning provisional withdrawal of the NNIST:S.
 5. Special report from NNIST Kunsan, RN 950 / TOR 2 June 1956 / concerning a letter from UNC-MAC Liaison Officer, and interim reply by the NNSC Chairman of the Week, Maj. Gen. Bergenstrahle, of 2 June 1956. *(statement, Min. Real, p. 2)*
 6. Miscellaneous.
 Discussion on information and interim instruction to the NNIST:S, in connection with the letter of NNSC to MAC of 5 June 1956.

PRESENT:	CHAIRMAN:	Minister Morski,	Poland
	MEMBERS:	Minister Real, General Taus, General Bergenstrahle,	Switzerland Czechoslovakia Sweden
	SECRETARIAT:	1/Lt. Hagenbuechle, Executive Secretary.	Switzerland

1. Approval of the agenda of the 257th Meeting.

The agenda, as submitted by the Secretaries, was adopted (NNSC Doc. 280, dtd 5 June 1956).

2. Approval of the record of the 255th Meeting.

The record of the 255th Meeting was approved.

3. Letter from Senior Member KPA/CPV-MAC Maj. Gen. Jung Kook Rok, dated 4 June 1956 concerning provisional withdrawal of the NNIST:S and related questions.

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GENERAL BERGENSTRAHLE: I suggest that point 3 only contains an oral presentation of the letter in question and that the discussion on the item is to be made under point 4.

CHAIRMAN: Actually we have not at length discussed the letter from the UNC - Side. We tried recently to draw only the immediate conclusions and postponed the discussion of the matter to a later date. I should like to ask you, Gentlemen, if in view of the fact that the letter of Senior Member, KPA/CPV - Side has been delivered last night, you would see the need of reading it or can we consider it as read and file it.

MINISTER REAL: As the letter from General Jung Kook Rok, which arrived last night, may call for some changes in our draft letter which we will discuss under point 4 of the agenda, I think we should officially take note of the communication of General Jung and have it read out.

CHAIRMAN: I have no objection that the letter be read out.

It was agreed to read out the letter.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY read out the letter (NNSC Doc. 277 dtd 4 June 1956).

CHAIRMAN: The letter has been read out, it becomes a part of our official record.

4. Draft letter from NNSC to MAC concerning provisional withdrawal of the NNSC:

CHAIRMAN: We have prepared a draft letter yesterday afternoon, but the reading and signing of it was postponed until today. In the meantime, we have received the letter from the other Side which has just been read. I was wondering, whether, in view of the fact that we now have the position of both Sides actually agreeing to the NNSC withdrawing the subteams from the North and South, we should not amend our proposed draft in this direction. I personally feel that we are now authorized by both Sides to issue our instructions to the subteams accordingly.

GENERAL BERGENSTRAHLE: May I suggest a recess to discuss the item we now have before us?

MINISTER REAL: I agree with the Chairman's remark that the letter which we drafted yesterday needs some revision and I would follow the suggestion of our Swedish Colleague that we review the draft-letter in a recess.

GENERAL TAUS: I associate myself with the proposal of the Honourable Swedish Member. I offer for consideration that we had only the reply from one side when we considered the draft yesterday. In the meantime we got a letter from the Senior Member KPA/CPV Side that simplifies the situation and enables us to issue the instructions.

(Meeting recessed at 1430 hours).

(Meeting resumed at 1600 hours).

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CHAIRMAN: During the recess we have agreed upon the text of the letter to be sent to the MAC. I now request the Executive Secretary to read out the letter.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY read out the letter (NNSC Doc. 278 dtd 5 June 1956).

MINISTER REAL: Allow me to make a statement before I sign this letter. The Swiss Government is one of the Governments represented in the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission that has, in the course of the past months and after a very careful examination of the given circumstances in which the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission functions at present, proposed, through diplomatic channels, the elimination of the Inspection Teams now stationed in the Ports of Entry in the territory under the military control of the two parties of the Armistice Agreement. In proposing such a step, the Swiss Government was guided by the consideration that the means of the Commission to exercise an efficient control are extremely limited. In spite of the presence and supervisory activities of our Commission, speakers of both parties to the Armistice Agreement on several occasions and continuously, have officially affirmed that the military potential in the territory of Korea under control of the opposing camp has been considerably increased in violation of the Armistice Agreement. These statements give plain evidence of the unsatisfactory and unacceptable situation in which the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission is thereby placed. Thus, the further maintaining of fixed inspection teams would indeed only strengthen the misleading fiction of a real and effective control by the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission on all incoming and outgoing combat materiel and military personnel in both parts of Korea. It is especially for this reason that the Swiss Government for quite some time has felt that the tasks and the functions of this Commission should be brought in line with its real possibilities of action.

Based on these considerations and in view of the situation created by the suspension of the performance of those provisions of the Armistice Agreement governing the operations of the NNSC and NNIT:S by one side of the Armistice Agreement, I support the proposal made by the Swedish Member at yesterday's meeting to recommend to the Military Armistice Commission that the NNSC be authorized to provisionally withdraw all the fixed inspection teams into the Demilitarized Zone. I am ready to sign the letter addressed to the Military Armistice Commission prepared by the Commission to this effect.

When accepting its mission in Korea, the Swiss Government has publicly stated that Switzerland does not consider herself as the mandatary of one party, that is the party by which she has been nominated, but that she carries out her functions in the Commission in the interests of both sides of the Armistice Agreement. I therefore want to state that I hold that the withdrawal of the Commission's teams should, in accordance with the Armistice Agreement, be based on an authorization given to the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission by the Military Armistice Commission.

The solution outlined in the proposed letter of our Commission to the Military Armistice Commission having a provisional character, the Swiss Delegate and his Government will closely follow the further development, and will, depending on circumstances decide on their ulterior attitude.

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GENERAL BERGENSTRAHLE: With this letter we make recommendations to MAC concerning a provisional withdrawal of our teams. We thus act in the same manner as in 1955 in this question. This is in strict observation of the stipulations of the AA. I hope we shall receive a positive reply from MAC as soon as possible, thus making it possible for the NNSC to take a joint decision concerning the technical steps to be taken for the withdrawal of the teams.

GENERAL TAUS: At the end of the two days negotiations, held on the issue of closing the work of the subteams in NNSC, I am convinced that the NNSC has been playing and will be playing in the future too, an important role, in the maintenance of the Armistice in Korea. The Czechoslovak Delegation would like to present its position, assuring you that even under the different conditions and circumstances we are prepared to fulfill our mission with honour, assisting to preserve the Armistice in Korea. I am glad we have reached a unanimous decision and as Czechoslovak Member I am ready to sign the letter.

MINISTER MORSKI: I reserve my statement on the broader aspects of the issue under consideration to the forthcoming Meeting of our Commission. At this moment I only wish to state that I am ready to sign the joint letter to MAC as read.

I shall sign it with a feeling that whatever are the circumstances in which we find ourselves at this moment, this Commission has acted in dignity and in strict observance of the Armistice Agreement, which forms the basis for the existence of this Commission and sets the terms of reference for its activities.

I wish to thank my Colleagues for the important contributions they made towards reaching this one more unanimous decision of this Commission, as well as for the spirit in which they made these contributions.

CHAIRMAN: The document has been signed. We may entrust the Executive Secretary with the task of dispatching the letter to MAC.

It was decided to have the letter to the Military Armistice Commission, dated 5 June 1956, forwarded by the Executive Secretary. (NNSC Doc. 278).

5. Special report from NNIST Kunsan, RN 950 (TOR 2 June 1956) concerning a letter from UNC-MAC Liaison Officer, and interim reply by the NNSC Chairman of the Week, Maj. Gen. Bergenstrahle, of June 2, 1956.

The CHAIRMAN informed that the NNIST 10 Kunsan had sent a special cable relaying the letter of the Liaison Officer UNC-MAC identical in its contents with the letter from the Senior Member UNC-MAC to NNSC dated 31 May 1956 and requesting instructions from the NNSC. The then Chairman of the Week, General Bergenstrahle, sent a reply cable to the NNIST 10 Kunsan advising the team to wait for further instructions from headquarters. He proposed to take note of both the cable and the answer.

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(Text of cables)

"FROM NNIST 10 KUNSAN
 TO NNSC HQ PANMUNJOM

SPECIAL CABLE

The NNIST 10 Kunsan received the following letter from UNC-MAC Liaison Officer Kunsan.

"I am directed by the Commander-in-Chief United Nations Command to inform you that because of obstructions and violations of the terms of the Armistice on the part of the Korean People's Army and Chinese People's Volunteers side and the obstructive conduct of the Czech and Polish members of the NNSC and NNIT:S, the United Nations Command is hereby notifying the NNSC and its subordinate teams at Inchon, Pusan and Kunsan that the United Nations Command will provisionally suspend, during the time that the Communist side continues in default, performance in its part of those provisions of the Armistice Agreement governing the operation in the area under the control of the United Nations Command of NNSC and NNIT:S. You are informed that this suspension will be put into effect in above one week and United Nations Command will expect withdrawal of the teams from the area to be effected at the time. The United Nations Command is taking only such steps as are indispensable to protection of its rights under the Armistice Agreement. The United Nations Command continues to regard the Armistice Agreement as in force and limits its action to the particular suspensions described above. Since for the reasons above stated the NNSC teams in the North have not been able to accomplish their purpose, we see no purpose in their remaining there. Signed G. Gard, Major General".
 The Subteam Kunsan is waiting for your instructions. The Subteam Kunsan continues its activity.

TOR: 2/6/1045
 RN: 950"

"From NNSC HQ PANMUNJOM
 To NNIST 10 KUNSAN

02.06.1130
 priority

As Chairman of the Week I beg to acknowledge receipt of your telegram concerning the letter from UNC-MAC Liaison Officer Kunsan. As soon as NNSC has taken decision in the question you will receive proper instructions.
 Major General Bergenstrahle Chairman of the Week.

Mr. Galus, Exec. Secretary NNSC"

It was decided to take note of the above cables.
and to approve the reply of the Chairman.

6. Miscellaneous:

Discussion on information and interim instruction to the NNIST:S in connection with the letter of NNSC to MAC of 5 June 1956.

GENERAL BERGENSTRAHLE suggested that the NNSC should decide that the teams at present in function in the North and

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in the South should be informed about the contents of the letter discussed under point 4.

The CHAIRMAN indicated that the teams were anxious to know the attitude of the Commission. If it met with approval, the Chairman would undertake with the Executive Secretary to inform the subteams about the contents of the NNSC-letter to MAC. As soon as the Commission got the answer from the Sides it would reconvene or the Members would communicate with each other and send appropriate instructions to the NNIST:S.

It was agreed to have the teams informed by the Executive Secretary and to reconvene the Meeting after receipt of the answer from the Military Armistice Commission.

Meeting adjourned at 1630 hours.

Bu/CH

HEADQUARTERS
 UNITED NATIONS COMMAND
 MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION
 APO 72

72
 SEVENTY-SECOND MEETING OF THE MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION

HELD AT MAC HQ AREA, KOREA

- 7 June 1956 -

MEMBERS PRESENT

UNITED NATIONS COMMAND

M GEN R G GARD, USA
 B GEN F C CROFT, USMC
 B GEN AHN KWANG HO, ROKA
 B GEN L M GUYER, USAF
 BRIG R B F FRISBY, UKA

KOREAN PEOPLE'S ARMY
CHINESE PEOPLE'S VOLUNTEERS

M GEN JUNG KOOK ROK, KPA
 M GEN JEN JUNG, CPV
 COL LO IN HI, KPA
 COL LEE CHONG BOM, KPA

* Meeting convened - 1030 *

KPA/CPV: On April 9, the governments of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the People's Republic of China proposed to the government of the United States and the other countries concerned on the United Nations Command side that the conference of the countries concerned be convened to negotiate the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Korea, the peaceful unification of Korea and other related questions. This proposal of our side is very reasonable and urgent one; now that nearly three years have elapsed since the armistice, yet a peaceful settlement of the Korean question has not been achieved, owing to the persistent obstructions of your side.

This proposal should have been accepted. However, your side, opposing the withdrawal of American troops from Korea, and obstructing the peaceful unification of Korea, has refused to negotiate the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Korea, the peaceful unification of Korea and other related questions.

Furthermore, your side unilaterally declared, at the 70th Military Armistice Commission meeting held on May 31, that the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams should withdraw from South Korea in a week. Therefore, at the 71st Military Armistice Commission meeting, held on June 4, our side could not but take the initiative to put

KAP/CPV:
(Cont'd)

forth the proposal of the Swedish government for the temporary withdrawal of the inspection teams stationed in the designated ports-of-entry, while the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission retains its right to dispatch these teams again to the designated ports-of-entry.

Our side has agreed to the proposal of the Swedish government, with a view to maintaining the status and functions and authority of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission and its inspection teams, as stipulated by the Armistice Agreement, and to preventing the Armistice Agreement from being wrecked over the question of the inspection teams.

It is regrettable that on June 5 the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, under the flagrant pressure of your side, recommended to the Military Armistice Commission a temporary withdrawal of the inspection teams. Taking into consideration the present situation, our side proposes that both sides of the Military Armistice Commission make clear to the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission the following two points:

1) there should be no change on the functions and authority of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission and its inspection teams, which are inseparable part and parcel of the Armistice Agreement;

2) the withdrawal of the inspection teams, both from the north and south, is a temporary measure. The Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission has the right to dispatch the inspection teams again to stations in the designated ports-of-entry in case either side of the parties to the Armistice Agreement brings a well-founded charge of any violation of the Armistice Agreement by the other side.

It is the functions and authority of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, and its inspection teams, to supervise and inspect the rotation of military personnel and the replacement of combat materiel. The functions and authority of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission and its inspection teams are inseparable part and parcel of the Armistice Agreement.

KPA/CPV:
(Cont'd)

Furthermore, the withdrawal of the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams, both from the north and the south, is a temporary measure and brings about no change in the functions and authority of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission and its inspection teams.

The Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission too made this clear in its letter of June 5 addressed to the Military Armistice Commission. Therefore, the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission has the right to dispatch the inspection teams again to stations in the designated ports-of-entry in case either side of the parties to the armistice brings a well-founded charge against any violation of the Armistice Agreement by the other side.

Our side proposes that in reply to the letter of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, dated June 5, 1956, concerning the temporary withdrawal of the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams, the Military Armistice Commission send an answer to the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission expressing agreement to the temporary withdrawal of the inspection teams on the basis of the above-mentioned two points.

Now I would like to hear your views.

UNC:

We propose to recess for 30 minutes.

KPA/CPV:

I agree.

(Meeting recessed - 1045; reconvened - 1115)

UNC:

Our side is gratified to note that the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission has unanimously recommended to the Military Armistice Commission the expeditious withdrawal of the Neutral Nations sub-teams stationed in the territory under the military control of the United Nations Command side and the Korean People's Army and Chinese People's Volunteers side. The United Nations Command side agrees that the Military Armistice Commission authorize this withdrawal. However, the proposal you have just made is a repetition of the one you made in the 71st meeting of the Military Armistice Commission. The position of the United Nations Command has not changed. I stated then that since none of the Mobile Inspection Teams had resulted in an agreed

UNC:
(Cont'd)

report there was no reason to expect that this record would suddenly be reversed. Furthermore, it is the height of absurdity to expect that an inspection team which would visit a port-of-entry only now and then could possibly accomplish what teams continuously stationed at the ports-of-entry have been unable to do.

The 9 April 1956 Chinese Communist note to the 16 United Nations Command members noted the proposals made by Sweden and Switzerland to remove the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams to the Demilitarized Zone, with the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission having the right to dispatch inspection teams to the ports-of-entry.

These proposals were considered by the 16 nations of the United Nations Command. Their agreed position regarding the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission was contained in the statement I made in the 70th meeting of the Military Armistice Commission, the essential points of which I will now repeat:

The United Nations Command notified your side, and the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission and its subordinate teams at Inchon, Pusan and Kunsan, that the United Nations Command will provisionally suspend, during the time that your side continues in default, performance on its part of those provisions of the Armistice Agreement governing the operations in the area under the control of the United Nations Command of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission and Neutral Nations Inspection Teams.

You are informed that this suspension will be put into effect in about one week and the United Nations Command will expect withdrawal of the teams from the area to be effected at that time.

The United Nations Command is taking only such steps as are indispensable to protection of its rights under the Armistice Agreement. The United Nations Command continues to regard the Armistice Agreement as in force and limits its action to the particular suspensions described above.

Finally, since for the reasons above stated, the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission teams in the north have not been

UNC:
(Cont'd)

able to accomplish their purpose, we see no purpose in their remaining there.

KPA/CPV:

Since the Armistice our side has been consistent in strictly observing the Armistice Agreement, and has given full assistance to the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission. However, in violation of the Armistice Agreement your side has on the contrary introduced large quantities of reinforcing combat materiel to arm the South Korean army, and has obstructed the work of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission by every means, and has long since resorted to all sorts of plots to eliminate the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission.

On May 31 your side announced that the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams should withdraw from South Korea in one week, and still persists in it. This constitutes a continuation of the persistent acts of your side. It is clear to everybody that the attempt of your side to illegally deprive the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, and its inspection teams, of their functions and authority is illegal act in serious violation of the Armistice Agreement. In order to justify its own illegal act of serious violation of the Armistice Agreement and shift the responsibility to our side, your side is repeating a series of false allegations, slandering our side and the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, as well as some of its members. But your side can never justify itself by so doing, nor can it shirk its responsibility for having violated the Armistice Agreement.

The real reason why your side, in disregard of all circumstances, has demanded the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission to withdraw the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams from South Korea, is that the work of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, particularly of the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams stationed in the territory of your side, is becoming more and more an obstacle for the American government, and the Syngman Rhee clique of your side, to further wreck the Armistice Agreement. American high ranking officials, and

KPA/CPV: Syngman Rhee clique of your side, instigated by your side, is clamoring
(Cont'd)

day and night for expanding the South Korean army and equipping it with new arms. Therefore it can be said that the illegal act of your side, and serious violation of the Armistice Agreement, is an inevitable outcome of the development. This is proved by the fact that your side declared that the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams should withdraw from South Korea in one week, following the rejection of the government of the United States, and other countries concerned of your side, of the proposal by the governments of our side for holding a conference of the countries concerned to negotiate the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Korea, the peaceful unification of Korea and other related questions.

Furthermore, this is also evidenced by the rejection by your side of the reasonable proposal of our side that the Military Armistice Commission agree to temporarily withdraw all of the inspection teams by the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission on the basis of the following two considerations:

1) there should be no change on the functions and authority of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission and its inspection teams, which are inseparable part and parcel of the Armistice Agreement;

2) the withdrawal of the inspection teams, both from the north and south, is a temporary measure. The Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission has the right to dispatch again the inspection teams to stations in the designated ports-of-entry, in case either side of the parties of the Armistice Agreement brings a well-founded charge of violation of the Armistice Agreement by the other side.

Furthermore, immediately after you declared unilaterally on May 31 that the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams should withdraw from South Korea in one week, Syngman Rhee and his "Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs", Cho Chung Hwan, again clamored about the "unification by force" and "the march to the north", claimed that besides the withdrawal of the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams, the Neutral Nations

KPA/CPV: Supervisory Commission should be eliminated as well, in order to expand the military strength, thereby laying bare the real purpose of your side.

The functions and authority of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, and its inspection teams, are inseparable part and parcel of the Armistice Agreement. Furthermore, the withdrawal of the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams, both from the north and the south, is a temporary measure and brings about no change in the functions and authority of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission and its inspection teams.

In its letter to the Military Armistice Commission, dated June 5, 1956, the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission made it clear that "it is not possible to operate any longer" in the territory of your side as a result of the arbitrary announcement of your side, and that the temporary withdrawal of the inspection teams is a temporary measure and "does not change the legal status of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission".

If your side is willing to abide by the Armistice Agreement, as you state, and has nothing to fear in subjecting itself again to the inspection by the inspection teams, there can be no reason whatsoever to reject the reasonable proposal of our side.

Upon rejection of the proposal for holding a conference of the countries concerned to negotiate the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Korea, the peaceful unification of Korea and other related questions, your side is committing a illegal act, declaring unilaterally that the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams should withdraw from South Korea in a week, and rejected also the reasonable proposal of our side regarding the question of the temporary withdrawal of the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams. These acts clearly show that your side is plotting to further arm the Syngman Rhee clique, while at the same time subjecting the Armistice Agreement to a serious threat and thus menacing peace and security in Asia. Hence the recent illegal acts of your side has heightened the vigilance, not only of our side but also of all peace-loving countries and peoples throughout the world.

KPA/CPV: Our side will keep a close watch on every step of your side. I warn your side that should your side wreck the Armistice Agreement, in disregard of all the circumstances, your side would have to bear the entire responsibility for all the consequences.

UNC: Our action is in accord with a principle - the principle that both parties to an agreement must fulfill it with equal responsibility and honor. It is directed against your violations of the Armistice Agreement which have rendered ineffective the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission as a whole outside the Demilitarized Zone. By your illegal introductions of combat aircraft and combat materiel, and by your failures to report and your refusals and obstructions to inspections and investigations, you have made the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission only a cloak for covering your violations of the Armistice Agreement. Our action is accordingly directed to the principle that if the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission cannot be equally effective on both sides - as you well know it is not - then it is completely inequitable to apply only to our side those provisions of the Armistice Agreement intended to govern the operations of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission and Neutral Nations Inspection Teams within both sides.

Because of your failure to abide by the Armistice Agreement, the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission operations within your side do not protect our side. On the other hand, the provisional suspension of Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission operations within our side is of no effect whatever on the continued full adherence of our side to all other paragraphs of the Armistice Agreement.

Our side will continue to report as honestly and fully to the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in the Demilitarized Zone as it has in the past, both within and without the Demilitarized Zone.

Again your side has charged that the United Nations Command is initiating action which will increase tension and unrest. These charges are as false today as they have been in the past; they are repetitions of old tired phrases which contain no element of proof.

Your propaganda campaigns have consistently tried to place the

UNC:
(Cont'd)

blame for international tension on the non-communist world in general, and on the United Nations Command in Korea specifically. You have used here in Korea a typical example of communist obstruction as a screen for your own Armistice Agreement violations.

Our side objects to your attempts to pervert the Military Armistice Commission into a medium for the spreading of your political beliefs and propaganda, designed to distract the eyes of the world from the true facts.

As is well-known by all, even yourself, it is your side which has purposely and systematically created tension and unrest by flagrantly violating the Armistice Agreement. From the time of the signing of the Armistice Agreement your side has introduced illegally combat material, particularly combat aircraft, contrary to the provisions of the Armistice Agreement.

Your side has intentionally and deliberately destroyed the value and effectiveness of the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission. Your collusion with Polish and Czech members of the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams has enabled your side to obstruct and prevent inspections from being performed in North Korea, in accordance with the Armistice Agreement.

All of my charges have been clearly proven. The proof is in the records of the Military Armistice Commission and the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission for all to see.

The United Nations Command has adhered completely to all provisions of the Armistice Agreement and continues to regard the Armistice Agreement as being in force. The objective of the United Nations Command is still the peaceful settlement envisioned by the Armistice Agreement. Do these facts add to the tension and unrest in the world? I think not.

The provisional suspension of those provisions of the Armistice Agreement governing the operations of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission and Neutral Nations Inspection Teams in the area under the control of the United Nations Command will continue as long as your side continues in default.

UNC:

I repeat, our side is gratified to note that the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission has unanimously recommended to the Military Armistice Commission the expeditious withdrawal of the Neutral Nations Sub-teams stationed in the territory under the military control of the United Nations Command side and the Korean People's Army and Chinese People's Volunteers side.

The United Nations Command side agrees that the Military Armistice Commission authorize this withdrawal.

KPA/CPV:

Major General Gard, by distorting facts you talk as if your side were faithful in implementing the Armistice Agreement. Now I ask you a question, "Do you mean to say that it is the evidence of your side's abidance to the Armistice Agreement, that your side arbitrarily deprives the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, and its inspection teams, of their functions and authorities, which constitutes the inseparable part and parcel of the Armistice Agreement?" If your logic is to be admitted it might be said that the clamor of Syngman Rhee about the "unification by force" and the "march to the north" conforms with the Armistice Agreement too.

Your side cannot cover up or justify or legalize its own serious and clear violations of the Armistice Agreement under any pretext or by any means whatsoever. Moreover, under any pretext or by any means your side cannot shift the responsibility to our side. All the attempts you make in the interest of your side for this purpose only lay bare all the more the violations of the Armistice Agreement by your side, and its intrigues and plots.

I deem it necessary to draw the attention of your side again to the following point, which is one of the essential parts of my statement. Upon rejection of the proposal for holding a conference of the countries concerned, to negotiate the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Korea, the peaceful unification of Korea and other related questions, your side committed an illegal act of declaring unilaterally that the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams should withdraw from South Korea in a week and rejected also the responsible proposal of our side regarding the question of the temporary withdrawal

KPA/CPV: of the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams. These acts clearly show
 (Cont'd) that your side is plotting to further arm the Syngman Rhee clique,
 while at the same time subjecting the Armistice Agreement to a
 serious threat, and thus menacing peace and security in Asia. Hence
 the recent illegal act of your side has heightened the vigilance,
 not only of our side but also of all peace loving countries and
 peoples throughout the world.

Our side will keep a close watch on every step of your side. I
 warn your side that should your side wreck the Armistice Agreement,
 in disregard of all the circumstances, your side would have to bear
 the entire responsibility for all the consequences.

If your side has nothing further to discuss at this meeting I
 propose we recess until either side deems it necessary to meet again.

(KPA/CPV
 interpreter)

I have one correction in the translation of my last
 statement: "Responsible proposal of our side" should read
 "reasonable proposal of our side".

UNC:

Since you will not agree to the recommendation of the Neutral
Nations Supervisory Commission to withdraw to the Demilitarized Zone,
the United Nations Command side confirms its intention to proceed as
announced to you on May 31 in the 70th Military Armistice Commission
meeting.

I agree to recess.

* Meeting adjourned - 1230 *