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HEADQUARTERS
UNITED NATIONS COMMAND
MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION
APO 72

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Approved: DOD DIR. 5200.1 R
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28 July 1953

SUBJECT: First Staff Officers Meeting on Rules of Procedure of the Military Armistice Commission and the Construction of Facilities required in the Demilitarized Zone by the Military Armistice Commission and the Agencies established by the Armistice.

Representatives Present:

UNITED NATIONS - COL J K Weber, USA, Senior Staff Officer; COL S L Motcalfe, USA, COL E J Brugger, USA, Staff Officers; Interpreters; and Stenographers.

COMMUNISTS: - - - COL Huang Cheng Chi, CPV, Senior Staff Officer; COL Lee Yong, NKA, Staff Officer; Interpreters; and Stenographers.

Meeting convened at 1500 hours.

COL HUANG: I and Colonel Lee Yong are appointed by the Senior Member of our side to discuss questions concerning the solution of the dispatch of the Joint Observer Teams.

The questions which we should immediately settle are: First, the question of the composition of the Joint Observer Teams.

On July 26th we made a proposal that each Joint Observer Team be composed of three (3) field grade officers, with assistant personnel not to exceed thirty (30) persons.

We consider that after the Armistice becomes effective, there is a lot of work for the Joint Observer Teams to undertake within the Demilitarized Zone. From past experience, investigations should have to be conducted by a comparatively big number of personnel, if there is any investigations to be done. Therefore, we consider that it is appropriate for each side to provide thirty (30) assistant personnel. I would like to explain it again.

COL WEBER: May I interrupt just a moment?

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COL HUANG: Please go on.

COL WEBER: It was our understanding that this staff conference would consider the topic of rules of procedure for the Military Armistice Commission and construction of facilities for the Military Armistice Commission.

It was our understanding that the topic of Joint Observer Teams would be discussed by the Secretaries, of which our representative is Captain Coleman. Accordingly, we sent our personnel who are prepared to discuss the technical differences to Captain Coleman's meeting which is now meeting in the big building. Captain Coleman is prepared to discuss this topic and our side suggests that this particular topic be reserved for discussion with him and that your side and Captain Coleman be notified accordingly.

COL HUANG: We are appointed to discuss questions concerning the Joint Observer Teams. As to the question of rules of procedure of the Military Armistice Commission, and the construction of the headquarters, the Senior Member of our side proposed at the first meeting of the Military Armistice Commission, that they be referred to the Secretaries of both sides for discussion.

We consider that the questions of the Joint Observer Teams are rather pressing. Since your side has not been authorized to discuss this question, I propose that we recess and that the Secretaries of both sides immediately make arrangements thereafter.

COL WEBER: Our side is ready to discuss the question of the Joint Observer Teams. At the meeting of the Military Armistice Commission this morning, our side indicated that Captain

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COL WEBER:
(CONT'D)

Coleman would be our representative for that topic. He is in place in the big building with the necessary technical personnel ready to discuss the technical differences and come to an agreement with your side if these technical differences can be mutually agreed on.

Our side agrees with your side that the settlement of the topics you proposed to discuss is important. Our side is prepared to discuss that in the big building at the present time. At the Military Armistice Commission meeting this morning, it was proposed that a staff officers' committee composed of myself, representing our side and, I understood, two (2) officers named by your side, would meet in this meeting this afternoon to discuss the two topics of rules of procedure and construction of the Military Armistice Commission facilities. Our side is ready to discuss those two topics now and Captain Coleman of our side is ready to discuss the topic of the Joint Observer Teams.

COL HUANG:

As to the question of the rules of procedure of the Military Armistice Commission and the question of the construction of the headquarters, our side is ready to discuss with your side, too. But it is our understanding that these questions should be discussed by the Secretaries of both sides. Since both sides have different understandings toward the arrangements of these two meetings, I propose that we now recess and that the Secretaries of both sides immediately make arrangements thereof.

COL WEBER:

As our side understands it, your proposal is that we make arrangements so that the two meetings can continue.

COL HUANG:

As to the arrangement of these two meetings, I think that the

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COL HUANG: Secretaries of both sides are able to reach an agreement.
(CONT'D)

COL WEBER: How long do you propose to recess?

COL HUANG: We can meet again as soon as the Secretaries of both sides reach an agreement on the arrangements of these meetings.

COL WEBER: I propose that we recess for a half hour and notify the Secretaries of the situation. It is very important to your side and our side that these discussions continue, as the discussion with reference to the Joint Observer Teams should go on this afternoon with Captain Coleman of our side who is prepared to discuss that topic. We are prepared to discuss the other topics that were agreed on at the Commission meeting this morning.

COL HUANG: Inasmuch as these two meetings are to be arranged by the Secretaries of both sides, we consider that we had better leave the arrangement as to the time to them. I think that the Secretaries of both sides can reach an agreement very soon on the question of the arrangements of a meeting including the question of time.

COL WEBER. The arrangements for the meeting were made by the Military Armistice Commission at this morning's meeting. Our side does not believe that we have the power to change an arrangement agreed on by the Military Armistice Commission. Our side believes that we should adjust this apparent misunderstanding without having to take the matter before the Commission and before the Commission meets again.

COL HUANG: As to the contents of the discussion of the two meetings, both sides have reached an agreement at the first meeting of the Military Armistice Commission. We are not trying to change the contents of these two meetings. It is simply

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COL HUANG: because both sides have a different understanding, that it is necessary to rearrange personnel who should attend the meetings. This question can be speedily agreed to by the Secretaries of both sides. I propose that we recess and leave the arrangements to the Secretaries.

COL WEBER: The matter of the Joint Observer Teams should be speedily settled, as the differences are largely technical. Captain Coleman and his specialists are prepared to discuss that issue with your side this afternoon. There should be no occasion for an adjournment of a meeting on this topic. Is your side prepared to discuss this topic with Captain Coleman this afternoon?

COL HUANG: According to my understanding, Captain Coleman is holding a meeting with Colonel Ju Yen of our side. We are now prepared to discuss questions concerning the Joint Observer Teams just as we proposed to do so at the outset of the meeting. If the personnel of your side for discussing the questions of the Joint Observer Teams are ready to attend immediately, we can start discussions right now.

COL WEBER: Then I suggest that we recess for one half hour and return if they are prepared to take up this discussion where your side and our side have their Joint Observer Team representatives and ascertain when and where our side can meet your side for a discussion of the topic of the Rules of Procedure and Construction of the Facilities for the Military Armistice Commission.

COL HUANG: We agree.

Meeting recessed at 1600 hours.

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