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HEADQUARTERS
UNITED NATIONS COMMAND ADVANCE
APO 72

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AUTHORITY OF DOD DIR. 5200.1 R
BY Vetoch ON 2/27/98

27 July 1953

SUBJECT: First Meeting of Staff Officers for the arrangement of the Commission.

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

For the United Nations:

COL Colfield, USAF
CAPT B M Coleman, USN

For the Communists:

COL Ju Yon, NKA
COL Chu Ying, CCF

Meeting reconvened at 1530 hours.

COL JU:

I request you to transmit the following message to your senior liaison officers. Our side has sent the text of the Armistice Agreement to our commanders for signature, at two o'clock this afternoon. These documents are being carried by a convoy of five vehicles, each bearing red markings. I call your attention to this fact.

CAPT COLEMAN:

We will undertake to transmit your message immediately. I am Captain Beverly M. Coleman, United States Navy, a Staff Officer of the United Nations' Command component of the Military Armistice Commission and the United Nations Command Secretary - designate to the Military Armistice Commission.

In order to be assured that the views of the two sides regarding certain details relating to the first meeting are the same, I desire to state our view on these points and ascertain that your views are the same.

1. In our proposal presented on 20 July 1953, we referred to the number of photographers to be admitted from each side as four. In our discussion of last evening the number of four

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CAPT COLEMAN:
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was mentioned but it was not specifically stated that each side would be allowed such number. We desire to be certain that your understanding is that each side may have not more than four photographers of which two may be moving picture photographers and two still picture photographers.

2. The second point is that in our proposal we stated that, except for the matter of the four photographers from each side at the first meeting: "news media representatives from both sides conform to the regulations in effect during the armistice negotiations." We would like to be certain that such arrangement has been agreed to by the two sides.

3. And thirdly, our side desires to release to the press at 1600 hours today, the fact that the first meeting of the Military Armistice Commission will be held at 1100 hours tomorrow morning, 28 July 1953 at Panmunjom.

If these details of the arrangements are also your views, then we are prepared to announce them at 1600 today.

COL JU: If you have any further questions to raise now we wish your side to do so so that we may give them a full consideration.

CAPT COLEMAN: I have no more questions at the present time. If your side would like to confer upon the questions I have just raised I suggest that we recess for five or ten minutes as your side may prefer.

COL JU: I agree to recess for ten minutes.

Meeting recessed at 1549 hours.

Meeting reconvened at 1610 hours.

COL JU: As to the number of photographers who would be admitted to the first meeting of the Military Armistice Commission, I assert that we have agreed that the number will be 4, 2 of whom will be movie picture photographers and the other two would be the still picture photographers. As to the second question you have raised, we agree that the newspaper representatives from both sides conform to the meetings in effect during the armistice negotiations. As to the third question your side has raised I propose that the fact of

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COL JU:
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the first meeting of the Military Armistice Commission which will be held at 1100 hours 28 July will be released instead of 1600 hours at 1800 hours because 1600 hours has already passed.

CAPT COLEMAN: I understand that our side may have 4 photographers present at the meetings tomorrow and that your side may have 4 photographers. This will make a total of 8. Is that your understanding.

COL JU: It is also our understanding.

CAPT COLEMAN: We also agree to make the announcement regarding tomorrow's meeting to the press at 1800 hours today. Your message regarding the convoy carrying the texts of the Armistice Agreement was transmitted to our headquarters and I have been instructed to inform your side that all vehicles on the road to PuYong have been granted immunity since 1000 hours this morning. There is one matter our side desires to announce to your side under the terms of the supplementary agreement to the Armistice Agreement. Our side proposes at 0800 hours 28 July to start to move unarmed United Nations personnel into the area in the vicinity of Tong Yang-Ni on our side of the Military Demarcation Line to remove mine fields and to start construction of a camp for prisoners of war who are not to be directly repatriated. It will be appreciated if your side can tell us promptly if your side has any objections.

COL JU:

I have noted your answer from your senior liaison Officer who was informed of my statement. I have noted your statement for the implementation of the supplemental agreement to the Armistice Agreement. Can you explain how many the number of your side of Army personnel who will enter the Demilitarized Zone?

CAPT COLEMAN:

We will undertake to get this number for you immediately.

I would like to make one recommendation which perhaps you will want to refer to the Secretary to be appointed by

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CAPT COLEMAN: your side. My recommendation is that at the beginning of the meeting tomorrow, sufficient space be allowed between the Northeast end of the conference table and the wall of the building to allow room for the photographers who will desire to obtain a view of all of the members of the commission at their seats. Further, I recommend that at the Southwest end of the conference table the two secretaries be seated during the conduct of the business of the Commission. Since the meeting tomorrow will begin at 1100 hours, I, as the Secretary designate of the United Nations Command will come to Pannunjom arriving at 1000 hours. If the Secretary from your side can also arrive here at the same time, we can together agree upon the matter I have recommended above.

I would like further to recommend the following procedure. At the beginning of tomorrow's meeting after all of the members have taken their seats, first the two senior members present their credentials to each other. Secondly the two senior members then present the other 4 members of their side on the Commission and present their credentials also. And thirdly that the senior members present to the Commission to the Secretary and Assistant Secretary appointed by their respective side. This matter I recommend for further reference to your Secretary for his consideration.

In reply to your question regarding the number of United Nations unarmed personnel, our side proposes to send in tomorrow morning to begin mine field removal and construction of a camp for the prisoners of war who are not to be repatriated, a number not exceeding 500.

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COL JU: I have noted your recommendation regarding space for the photographers at the first meeting and space for the two Secretaries. I suggest the views of our side as follows: At the first meeting of tomorrow, after the procedure of sitting all members and secretaries of both sides at 1000 hours tomorrow morning, we will finally settle it.

CAPT COLEMAN: When will your side be able to notify our side if your side has any objections to our side beginning the construction work tomorrow morning as the plan has been presented to you?

COL JU: We will inform you as soon as possible after our consideration.

CAPT COLEMAN: Would it be possible for your side to send us the information thru the security officers this evening?

COL JU: I do not intend to inform you of a matter which requires sufficient explanations and exchange of views. However, as I have just said our side will present our views as soon as possible. I would like to explain that I have already agreed that press relations be the same as they were during the Armistice negotiations. I would like to add that the same should be continued in the initial sessions of the Military Armistice Commission.

CAPT COLEMAN: Our side has no further matters to discuss at this meeting. If your side has nothing further to present us, I suggest the meeting be recessed.

COL JU: I agree.

Meeting recessed at 1715 hours.

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BY Netok ON 2/27/91

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HEADQUARTERS
MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION
APO 72

28 July 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: ^{2nd} Staff Officers Meeting held at Pan Mun Jom, 28 July 1953

PERSONNEL PRESENT:

For United Nations Command:

CAPT B M Coleman, USN
COL E W Colfield, USAF
LT T May, USA, Interpreter

For Communist Forces:

COL Ju Yon, NKA

Meeting reconvened at 1010 hours

CAPT COLEMAN: As recommended and in accordance with our understanding at yesterday's meeting, our side is now prepared to discuss any arrangements to be made immediately respecting the official meeting of the Commission scheduled to meet at 11 o'clock.

Accordingly, we suggest that the space between the north-east end of the conference table and the wall of the conference building be reserved during the very beginning for the photographers.

We also suggest that the small table now at the southwest end of the conference table be removed and four (4) chairs put in the space so provided, and that two (2) secretaries and two (2) assistant secretaries to be appointed by the two sides, be seated in the four (4) chairs.

If these two points are agreeable to you we suggest further that shortly after 1030 hours, the photographers be permitted to come into the conference building and take their places and set up any equipment they may have.

COL JU: We agree.

CAPT COLEMAN: Since we are in agreement on the three (3) points, I recommend we recess and effect the arrangements upon which we have reached our understanding

COL JU: We agree.

Meeting recessed at 1020 hours.

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AS 20/6. Draft Summary Notes