

thing that, rightly or wrongly, either party might regard as making any change prejudicial to it, while the truce is in operation.

Mr. HACKETT: Has Canada sent any personnel to Palestine and, if so, under what conditions?

Mr. ST. LAURENT: No, Canada has sent no personnel to Palestine. So far as I am informed, a very small guard of fifty is being recruited voluntarily from the ordinary staff of the secretariat of the united nations, and I believe that that guard was being flown from New York today. It consists of fifty of the regular personnel of the secretariat of the united nations, who volunteered to act as a token guard to assist the mediator in his undertaking to bring about a settlement there.

Mr. HACKETT: Have any Canadians joined that unit?

Mr. ST. LAURENT: No Canadians have joined that unit. My information is that all but five are United States citizens. Two are French citizens who were in the employ of the united nations at Lake Success; one is of Swedish origin, and another is of Danish origin.

Mr. MACDONNELL (Muskoka-Ontario): Do they go as civilians?

Mr. ST. LAURENT: They go as civilians employed by the united nations in a custodial capacity. They were guards of the premises at Flushing Meadows and Lake Success, and they probably went in the uniforms they wore as members of the custodial staff of the secretariat, but about that I am not sure.

Mr. JAUQUES: Will those fifty people who are going to Palestine be the nucleus of an international police force?

Mr. ST. LAURENT: I do not know that there is any international police force other than the custodial force the united nations have at Flushing Meadows and Lake Success. They go as bodyguards for the mediator and to assist him in the organization of his office on the island of Rhodes. I think it is for the purpose of bringing together the parties to this dispute and trying to get them to recognize that certain solutions are inevitable and should be accepted without bloodshed.

With respect to the constitution or semi-permanent constitution for the three zones occupied by the forces of the United Kingdom, the United States and France, as I stated some time ago in the house we did not ask to be invited to attend the discussions which took place in London, although we were kept informed of everything that was going on.

The reason we did not insist upon being brought in at that time was our recognition of the fact that if we had been brought in, a great many others would also have been brought in and it might have hampered the negotiations which were taking place for this semi-permanent solution. However, we reserved our position that when the peace treaty was being considered we wished to have a role commensurate with the role we had in carrying on wartime operations.

Mr. HACKETT: I understood that Canada has submitted a memorandum suggesting a form of government based on the principle of federalism which might be applicable in Trizonia. The suggested form of government differed slightly from that of our own system, in that the component states were to be the residuary legatees of all power, whereas here the dominion is. If my information is accurate, I should like to know whether we submitted that memorandum on our own initiative or upon invitation.

Mr. ST. LAURENT: It was submitted to the officials of six governments participating in the London talks, as a comment upon the information that was being communicated to us. We have not published the memorandum we submitted, because we thought that, by doing so, it might further complicate the negotiations which were being held. We had nothing of a serious consequence to comment upon in the drafts that we were receiving as being then under discussion in that meeting.

The hon. member asked when we might expect the Canadian representative on the war criminal court in Japan to return to Canada. I am not able to give the exact date, but I may say I had the privilege of having a long conversation some days ago with Brigadier Nolan, who had acted as Canadian prosecutor in these trials. He informed me that the trials had been completed and the cases taken under advisement. He told me that the members of the tribunal would be there only as long as may be required for them to prepare their judgment and reasons for their judgment. I hope that within weeks Mr. Justice McDougall will be back in Canada. At that time I am sure he will be glad to take up his ordinary duties as a member of the court of appeals of the province of Quebec.

The hon. member asked about Canada's relations with China at the present time. There have been no recent developments in that regard.

Then he asked as to what steps, if any, were being taken with regard to the entry of Newfoundland into confederation. As hon. members know, the first vote was not decisive and