Minutes from a Cabinet Meeting regarding Korea, 20 July 1950

SECRET

C.M.(50) 48th Conclusions

20 July, 1950

The Cabinet were informed that the Soviet Government had that morning published a summary of the messages which had passed between the United Kingdom Government and the Soviet Government following our initial request that the Soviet Government should use their influence with the North Koreans to bring about an immediate cessation of hostilities and the withdrawal of North Korean forces north of the 38th Parallel. In these circumstances it would be difficult to delay making a statement in Parliament about these exchanges; and, if this was to be complete, it should cover our reply to the latest Russian message, the terms of which had been discussed by the Cabinet on 18th July. This reply had not yet been sent, as the United States Government had been given an opportunity to comment on it. The Cabinet agreed, however, that in view of the announcement now made by the Soviet Government His Majesty’s Ambassador in Moscow should be instructed forthwith to deliver this reply and its terms should be disclosed in the Parliamentary statement about these exchanges.

The Cabinet –

(1) Agreed that a full statement should be made that afternoon in both Houses of Parliament regarding the approaches which the United Kingdom Government had made to the Soviet Government with a view to securing a cessation of hostilities in Korea. [[1]](#footnote-1)

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[TNA, CAB 128/50]

Keywords: Korea

1. See Hansard HC vol. 477, pp. 2479-83**,** 20 July 1950. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)