

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
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Summary of remarks by General Maxwell D. Taylor, Chief of Staff of the Army, before the Quantico Conference of Defense leaders, Quantico, Virginia, on Friday, July 15, 1955.

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At 1200 hours today the Chief of Staff of the Army, General Maxwell D. Taylor, presented to the Conference at Quantico a brief discussion covering the military situation in the Far East within the area commanded by the Commander-In-Chief, Far East Command.

General Taylor discussed the primary mission of the Commander-In-Chief, Far East and described the U. S. forces available to carry out that mission.

He also discussed the implications of the reduction in U. S. forces and pointed out the major tactical and logistical adjustments this reduction made necessary.

He also pointed out the facilities available in Japan and Korea and the impact on these facilities of future planned reduction in forces.

He covered the current capabilities and programmed capabilities of the Republic of Korea forces, which would have to bear the initial shock if hostilities reopened in Korea. The Republic of Korea Government, having experienced Communist aggression, is acutely aware of the Communist threat and is anxious to develop and maintain strong armed forces.

He told the Conference that Japan, with U. S. assistance and encouragement, is developing its own military forces. He then discussed the capabilities of Japanese forces and outlined the current and future plans for these forces. He indicated that the Japanese are moving quite slowly in the development of their ground forces but are doing somewhat better in providing for their air defense.

In conclusion, General Taylor listed his views on the principal items of unfinished business in his recent command. These are:

- a. How to resolve the armistice situation in Korea and terminate the disadvantageous conditions imposed on our forces there.
- b. How to get Japan into its proper military, political and economic role in stabilizing the Far East.
- c. How to organize and dispose available U. S. resources to attain our agreed objectives in the Far East.

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