

I just made a visit to Canadian forces in Korea and this morning to that part of our Canadian forces who have been serving for the last four years on units of our not very large but, we think, pretty good Canadian navy. Canada has been represented in the Korean conflict by a brigade of 5,000 or 6,000 soldiers, three destroyers and an air transport squadron. These forces, together with the much larger numbers in training and at work behind the lines and at home to support them, to keep them up to strength and to provide for an appropriate system of regular rotation constitute quite a substantial contribution and commitment to a collective operation for a country with a population as small as that of Canada.

Now, some of you may wonder why a country as richly endowed as ours is known to be and so far from the areas of international tension should send its soldiers to far-distant parts of the world.

Where we have been able to do so - as in Korea - we have taken part in collective measures to repel aggression under the direct authority of the United Nations because we believe that this is the best way to maintain international peace and security in the interests of all the peoples of the world and in the interests of Canadians as one of the nations constituting the peoples of the world.

The United Nations reaction to aggression in Korea under the great leadership of the United States of America has provided, I think, an example of what can be achieved by peace-loving nations working together to resist aggression and to restore peace.

Canadians are a profoundly peaceful people who want peace, not only for its own sake but also to enable them to proceed with the development of the great resources with which Providence has endowed this immense stretch of land from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Yet we know that we cannot build a wall around our country and we can't live behind it isolated from the rest of the world. Canadians are dependent on world trade for the kind of livelihood they now look upon as necessary for their well being and their welfare. A large part of our national income is derived from international trade. Although Canada is richly endowed with many resources, our northern climate does not permit the growth of many products that we need or think we need for our daily living. The development of our economy, therefore, is based on the concept of the widest possible international exchange of goods and services.

But trade, we all realize, requires stable international conditions to prosper. We have two vivid and unfortunate memories of what happens to trade when the world is not at peace. This is one of the important reasons why a disturbance of the peace anywhere in the world is of concern to us in Canada. We also know that totalitarianism, if permitted to grow and to extend the sphere of its tyranny, will eventually threaten the freedom we ourselves cherish for its own worth in our own land. It is for this reason that we attach such importance to the statement in Article I of the Charter of the United Nations that the first purpose of that organization is to maintain international peace and security and to that end to take effective collective measures to remove threats to peace and to suppress acts of aggression. We hoped that might be done through the