

of the free world. To what extent this is because of actual military potential, to what extent to psychological factors, it is impossible for us, and probably for anyone, to know. In any event, it is universally regarded as the ultimate weapon. It should be treated as such. The effectiveness of the bomb as a tactical weapon cannot be fully appreciated. The very uncertainty of its capabilities in the tactical role must add materially to its deterrent value. Once it has been used tactically, however, much of its force as a deterrent may disappear, unless its use for this purpose has proven overwhelmingly successful.

The Canadian people would hold their Government responsible for making the Canadian views known to the United States before the atomic bomb were to be used. This is especially true in present circumstances because of the United Nations character of the operations in Korea.

Furthermore, in atomic matters, the Canadian Government had, from the beginning, been a partner in the tripartite co-operation which stemmed from the Quebec Agreement between President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill in 1943. Mr. Mackenzie King was associated with the joint declaration of November, 1945, by the heads of three governments directly concerned. Through its membership in the Combined Policy Committee, the Canadian Government has continued to assist in the development of our joint resources of raw materials and of scientific knowledge. Canada has made a direct contribution to building up the atomic stockpile. Although the *modus vivendi* of the Combined Policy Committee concluded in January, 1948, does not include, as did the Quebec Agreement, the clause providing for prior consultation, the Canadian Government would be inevitably involved, and in a specially close sense, in the consequences of the use of the atomic bomb.

The mass intervention of the Chinese Communists in Korea may lead to the Third World War. In the present critical military situation, those who have their own men engaged (and this applies, of course, particularly to the United States) are obviously entitled to have full consideration given to the use of every available means of supporting the ground forces fighting under the United Nations command. This is natural and inevitable. But, before a decision of such immense and awful consequence, for all of us, is taken, there should be consultation among the governments principally concerned.