

Before I try to answer once again this crucial question, I should like to draw to your attention...the advantages which have already accrued to the cause of freedom from the United Nations action in Korea. In the first place,...the military danger to many other areas in Asia has been greatly reduced as a result of the courageous and skilful campaign which has been carried on in Korea. Many of the best formations of the Chinese communist army have been committed to battle in Korea and have suffered very heavy losses in the process. As a result, the number of trained troops facing Indo-China, Formosa, Hongkong, Burma and Malaya has been reduced, and the danger of successful attacks in those areas is now I think less than it was--although of course it has certainly not by any means been eliminated.

In meeting the onslaught of the Chinese communist forces then, the United Nations forces in Korea have suffered heavy losses but they have inflicted immensely heavier losses on the enemy. They can take pride in the fact that their heroic resistance has lessened the danger in other parts of Asia. I believe that is something that has already been accomplished by way of benefit to the cause of freedom.

Another way in which the cause of freedom has benefited through United Nations action in Korea is that the whole of the free world is now aroused and alerted to the danger so that more rapid progress is now being made in increasing the armed forces in being in the free world. We have now some reason to believe that before long these forces may be large enough to deter any would-be aggressor. This improvement in our position we owe, I think, largely to the sense of urgency which the war in Korea brought us, and also the energetic leadership of the United States of America.

This war in Korea has also been the occasion of another discovery which must be encouraging to free men everywhere. It is that collective military action against aggression is possible, and can be effective. It is certainly true even yet that three-quarters of the United Nations forces now fighting in Korea, apart from the South Koreans themselves, are being provided by the United States. But I think equally remarkable is the fact that no fewer than sixteen countries are now contributing contingents to the United Nations forces, and that all those contingents are being welded together in a strong and dependable United Nations army. It may be objected that all this is very well, but that if the United Nations army in Korea has not a clear mission which it can hope to fulfil, this whole grand exercise in international co-operation is futile. What, then, is the United Nations mission in Korea? Essentially, I think, ...to defeat aggression, and by the lesson of that defeat to help prevent the outbreak of World War III.

If the aggression in Korea had been allowed to succeed without any attempt being made to resist it, other acts of aggression would certainly have followed. The strength of the free world would have been nibbled away piecemeal in accordance with the master plans of the Politburo. Eventually, a stage would have been reached when the remaining countries which were still free and independent would have realized that they had either to