

are told that we had 10,000 men trained as paratroopers and soldiers, but that it was necessary to keep them here for the protection of our own country. I seriously challenge that statement. If we allow our side to lose the war in Korea, the next move by the communists will be made in some other country—maybe Iran or Yugoslavia or Germany. They will keep on applying the Hitler tactics and attack in soft places.

It is not a sufficient answer for the government to say that we have 10,000 trained soldiers in this country. Trained men were what MacArthur asked for. He wanted ground forces that could be thrown into action, if necessary. Many people are opposed to the sending of Canadians abroad for that purpose, but I believe that the majority wonder why, after all this splurge of spending on military effort, we were not able to put any men into the field; and if we had, we would not have been able to equip them. I do not say the money has been improperly spent, but I think it has been spent foolishly.

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: What is the difference?

Hon. Mr. Haig: There is no difference.

I am not so favourably impressed as is my honourable friend opposite by the Minister of National Defence. I am afraid that when the minister took over his present department he had the idea that never again would it become necessary for us to go to war, or, if events proved differently, that there would be a space of six or eight months or more in which forces could be trained for dispatch to wherever they might be needed, and that in these circumstances we should in the meantime simply maintain a small force. But the Russians were bound that things would not happen in that way. Apparently United States policy was largely similar to ours. I am not criticizing that country, for I have no right to do so, but I recall that about the middle of June the United States Secretary of War declared that his country was ready to fight any nation on earth. Ready! It was not ready at all.

I come back to our own situation. Although the Secretary General of the United Nations called for help in Korea on the 14th of July, we did not do anything at all till the 7th of August. Why? We knew that our action would be closely watched all over the world. Canada is one of the great free nations, the country that would be regarded by Russia as the best prize for conquest, and the country that it would be easiest for Russia to seize in an overland attack. Yet when the call came for help we were not ready at all, and we did not do anything for more than three weeks—

for twenty-four days—and then we called for volunteers. Of course we got some right away.

The people of this country are disturbed about this situation. They realize that we are not going to be allowed six or eight months to prepare for defence. If Russia decides to attack Canada or the United States, she will be too clever to give us a chance like that. And in the United States there is a veritable revolution over the national unpreparedness for a world war. Think of it! Just the other day General MacArthur, the leader of the United Nations forces in Korea, had to call for more ground forces in order to help him hold the line. I hope he can hold it, but I am not sure. In these circumstances I do not think that any member of this house or of the other house has a right to be complacent and to say that the Minister of National Defence has done a fine job. My feeling is that that attitude is not justified.

I am glad that we sent at least some destroyers to Korea and furnished some airplanes to transport supplies. It is not a very big effort for a country that for the last ten years has been describing itself as one of the great middle nations. We wanted to be leader of the middle nations. Leader! Even Siam is sending men to Korea; and Australia, with only a third of our population, has got forces there. These facts make Canadians fear that the United States will form a very bad opinion of this country. We talk bravely of how we have stood by the United States, how we are part of the freedom-loving people of the world; yet when a cold-blooded and totally unjustified attack was made on freedom, the best we could do was to send three destroyers for naval duty and twelve airplanes for the carriage of supplies. The government has stated that we could not send any men for at least six months. Well, the struggle will be decided before then.

I say again that that situation is worrying Canadians. It is no wonder that the other house has had some hot debates about our lack of action. The representatives of the people, like the people themselves, are really disturbed by the fact that after all the money we have spent the only response we could make to the United Nations call for help was three destroyers and a dozen airplanes.

I am willing to vote for the bill, and I presume that every member of this house will do so, because I am sure that all of them are as keen as I am to see that Canada does everything it can to put down this aggression. It is the first time in my experience that an aggressor nation has not attempted