

patience and persistence by the United States officers who represent the United Nations Command, a Command which it should not be forgotten the United States Government was asked by the United Nations to set up. These negotiations have not, I think, been made easier nor has consultation between governments concerning them been made easier by premature and inaccurate reports which occasionally appear as to what has been going on and which tend to underline differences and divergencies of view.

Secret diplomacy, of course, of the old type is no doubt open to condemnation, and a great deal of harm was done in its name in days gone by. But I sometimes think that headline diplomacy, radio and television diplomacy, which seems to be succeeding it, is no improvement. It might be desirable if we could get back to secrecy in negotiation, with publicity in declarations of policy and certainly publicity in the results of negotiation. This kind of public negotiation, because at times it seems to be almost that, does affect for instance the very difficult problem of consultation between allies, and the Korean truce negotiations undoubtedly illustrate that difficulty.

Canada and the other countries participating in United Nations operations in Korea insist and, I think, rightly insist, and should continue to insist, that they should be consulted about important developments in Korea by the Government of the United States which, of course, controls the unified command. On purely military matters, such consultation is not often necessary nor, I think, required, except through the military liaison channels which have been set up. But the situation is different when the discussions are over political matters, or when there are military discussions with political implications like the present armistice talks.

We have no difficulty over this in principle. We are all agreed, and the United States has more than once expressed complete agreement with this principle. But it is not always easy to work it out to everyone's satisfaction in practice, especially when one member of the United Nations bears so much the greatest share of the burden of the United Nations in Korea. And we pay tribute to the effort of the United States in that regard. Sometimes decisions have to be made quickly, and sometimes it is not easy to reconcile that need for speedy decision with the legitimate demands of others to be consulted. And yet I think it is fair to say that, over the months that we have been discussing the Korean armistice, there has been a real effort made in Washington to bring about this reconciliation of difficulties. There is very good evidence of this in the discussions that have been going on in the last two or three weeks.

You may recall that last December at the United Nations we passed a resolution by an enormous majority, unanimous except for the Communist bloc, laying down certain principles which seemed to provide a satisfactory basis of settlement for the prisoner of war question which was the only obstacle, we were told, and remains the only