

spoken of colonial bondage, of exploitation and of foreign yokes. Those views, uttered by the master of the major colonial power in the world today, followed the admission of fourteen new member nations to the United Nations -- all of them former colonies. It seems that he forgot what had occurred on the opening day.

Freedom for Colonial Peoples

Since the last war, 17 colonial areas and territories, comprising more than 40 million people, have been brought to complete freedom by France. In the same period 14 colonies and territories, comprising half a billion people, have achieved complete freedom within the Commonwealth. Taken together, some 600 million people in more than 30 countries, most of them now represented in this Assembly, have attained their freedom -- this with the approval, the encouragement and the guidance of the United Nations, the Commonwealth and France. There are few here that can speak with the authority of Canada on the subject of colonialism, for Canada was once a colony of both France and the United Kingdom. We were the first country which evolved over 100 years ago by constitutional processes from colonial status to independence without severing the family connexion.

The Commonwealth now embraces ten nations, including the United Kingdom, all of them free and voluntary members from all the continents, comprising one-fifth of the world's population and representing virtually every race, colour, and creed. We are united not by the sword or the seal but by the spirit of co-operation and by common aspirations; and the process is a continuing one. Within the next week another country, Nigeria, the most populous in Africa, will attain its independence and remain in the Commonwealth family.

Colonial Record of U.S.S.R.

Indeed, in this Assembly the membership is composed in a very considerable measure of the graduates of empires, mandates and trusteeships of the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth and other nations. I pause to ask this question: How many human beings have been liberated by the U.S.S.R.? Do we forget how one of the post-war colonies of the U.S.S.R. sought to liberate itself four years ago, and with what results? I say that because these facts of history in the Commonwealth and other countries invite comparison with the domination over peoples and territories sometimes gained under the guise of liberation, but always accompanied by the loss of political freedom. How are we to reconcile the tragedy of the Hungarian uprising in 1956 with Chairman Khrushchev's confident assertion of a few days ago in this Assembly? Mr. Khrushchev said: "It has been and always will be our stand that the peoples of Africa, like those of other continents striving for their liberation from the colonial yoke, should establish orders in their countries of their own will and choice." That I accept -- and I hope that those words mean a change of attitude for the future on the part of those he represents.