

leaders of the governments of this generation would never be forgiven if they did not exhaust every possible way of relieving, at least in some measure, international tension.

This was another basis for the messages that went out from the Prime Minister over the week-end. I can claim that in this regard Canada took the lead. The public expression of the desire of this Government to promote the holding of a summit meeting was the first public utterance on the Western side in this respect. I took the opportunity in the Security Council, as did the Prime Minister when he informed the House on Monday, of making very clear our concept of the desirability of holding an international conference as suggested. I have in mind, but I cannot claim this, that my observations had something to do with the postponement at least of the U.S.S.R. proposal to call for a General Assembly meeting in which they could indulge in more propaganda.

I have in mind also that the stand of the Canadian Government, as expressed by me in the Security Council on Monday of last week, had something to do with the acceptance of the counterproposal put forward by Mr. Macmillan on behalf of the United Kingdom. The real significance to me of the resolution with respect to the holding of a meeting in the Security Council - I do now expect it will be a favourable decision - is that this meeting will be held under the aegis of the United Nations. The Security Council, and I quote from the United Nations Charter, was established for the following purpose:

In order to ensure prompt and effective action by the United Nations, its members confer on the Security Council primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, and agree that in carrying out its duties under this responsibility the Security Councils acts on their behalf.

In my opinion, that is the proper forum for a meeting of Mr. Macmillan, Mr. Khrushchev, Mr. Eisenhower, General de Gaulle and others. We have noted with encouragement that Mr. Khrushchev has responded to this proposal that was sent out in clearer terms, perhaps, from London than from any other capital, that this meeting should be held within the Security Council. It could be, it may be - I emphasize the word "may" - a meeting of momentous consequence. Again, I say that it is worth trying in terms of the voice of humanity. Furthermore, I have in mind that apart from the powers whom I have named and to whom the letters were addressed by the author, the presence of Mr. Nehru, the distinguished leader of one of the nations of the Commonwealth and a representative of the awakening world of Asia, would contribute much to such a conference.