

Subject to due respect for that right in this matter before us, the Canadian Delegation will, I repeat, give the most earnest attention to any proposals which may be advanced.

Mao Tse-Tung, the Chairman of the Communist Party of China, said some months ago in an interview with a foreign correspondent - and I quote - "Taiwan is China's affair. We will insist on this." It is quite clear that what he meant was that the future of Taiwan was Peking's affair and no one else's.

Future of Formosa

My Delegation, Mr. President, cannot accept that claim. We believe, on the contrary, that the future of Formosa is the affair of the people of Formosa. Canadians would never understand or accept a solution by which this organization sanctioned the forcible extinction of the political identity of Formosa. Canadians have always been led to believe that the United Nations function is to prevent the imposition by force on any people of a political régime unacceptable to them.

On another occasion; the head of the government in Peking, Chou En-Lai, said - and again I quote - "This question is relatively simple. If the so-called 'Taiwan clique' is to appear in the United Nations, under whatever form and in whatever name - be it the Chiang Kai-shek clique or some other clique - we will definitely refuse to take part in the United Nations and sit together with them."

So far as the Delegation of Canada is concerned that is an unacceptable condition. Believing that the people of Formosa have a clear and inalienable right to decide their own future, we cannot for a moment agree that there is any justice or reason in the claim made by the Government at Peking that they can impose, as a condition of their own representation, denial of the representation of the people of Formosa. I would remind delegations that the population of Formosa is greater than that of about two-thirds of the members of this organization.

Only Conditions of UN Membership

Mr. President, the only conditions which apply to membership in the United Nations, and consequently to representation in it, are the conditions set out in the Charter.

There are important provisions of the United Nations Charter which my Delegation believes deserve special attention when considering the question of the representation of China. Members are required to be peace-loving and to refrain from the threat or use of force in their international relations. We have no desire to exacerbate differences, Mr. President, but we feel bound to emphasize that the record must give cause for grave doubts about the acceptance of that principle in Peking.