

not consider a conflict between two Chinese governments for possession of these Chinese coastal islands, Quemoy or the Matsus, to be such a situation, or one requiring any Canadian intervention in support of the Chinese nationalist regime. That view has already been made known more than once to our friends in Washington.

What I fear most in this matter is that even limited intervention, defensive in purpose, by the United States might have a chain reaction with unforeseen consequences which would cause the conflict to spread far beyond the locality where it began, and even across the ocean. If a little war were to spread like this it could become literally the little war before the last. That is why, may I repeat, we in Canada are definitely and deeply concerned in this particular issue, as we would be in any other peripheral conflict involving the United States, even though we might have no commitments in regard to it which would put us under any obligation for participation, except that which would flow out of our United Nations membership.

That is also one of the reasons we have to keep in the closest possible touch with Washington, as well as with London and New Delhi and other friendly capitals, on all these matters, and more particularly on these Formosan matters. I have personally more than once made known our views, our serious doubts and anxieties to the Secretary of State on this matter and have received from him a full statement of the United States position and the reason it has been adopted. He has confirmed the view, which I have already expressed, that there is no aggressive purpose of any kind behind that United States position.

It seems to me that the first requirement at the moment for the avoidance of conflict is for both Chinese sides to refrain from using force, particularly - this is the immediate danger point - against or from the coastal islands, but also against or from Formosa. We can certainly agree, I think, with Mr. Dulles when he said in New York in that speech which I have already mentioned:

"We do not expect the Chinese communists to renounce their ambitions. However, might they not renounce their efforts to realize their goals by force?"

If the Chinese communists have a case in this matter, then there are ways and means by which civilized countries can attempt peacefully to settle these disputes, both inside and outside the United Nations. An effort has already been launched in the security council to bring about a cease-fire as a preliminary to a political settlement based on reason and justice. The response to this initiative by the Peking regime was a summary refusal, but the council has shown great restraint in order to keep the door open for a peaceful solution whenever this can be obtained.

For the moment, however, I think there is a greater chance of finding a solution by direct diplomatic negotiation, which is presently going on, than by the use of the security council or even by calling a conference outside the United Nations. The main difficulty in the