

wishes, remain outside the system, while continuing to co-operate with the U.S.A. in a bomber-defence system.

I have explained why the Government considers, at the present time, that Canada should continue to contribute forces to NATO in Europe and to co-operate in the defence of North America. But I have also indicated that my early hope that we could trust our security to the United Nations remains alive. Indeed, I look forward to the day when it will be possible to dispense with these two alliances, NATO and the Warsaw Pact. Unfortunately, I can suggest no timetable for this transition, the more so because we can not properly anticipate the course and consequence of future Chinese policy. In the meantime, we must face up to the existing situation and accept the implications.

It is important, even while we are making a continuing contribution to collective defence arrangements, that we should be making efforts to increase the United Nations capacity to improve conditions of security in the world. For it remains apparent that the United Nations, in spite of its present difficulties, still offers the best hope of peaceful intervention in certain circumstances. No one would be stronger in support of the view that no nation, no matter how powerful, has the right to interfere in the affairs of other countries. Ideally, intervention should only be under the auspices of the United Nations itself. But we have to examine the facts as they are and as they are presented to us, on the basis of which we have to act at any given moment. It seems to me that it is in the interest of the great powers to encourage the United Nations to play this role, which reduces the risk that they themselves might become involved. No nation is the representative of the conscience of mankind; the United Nations remains the only international organization which, in most circumstances, is acceptable as an impartial outside presence.

But we must not lose sight of the limitations recently pointed up by the withdrawal of UNEF from the Middle East. Nor is it likely that the UN, in the foreseeable future, will undertake to mount combat operations along the lines undertaken either in Korea or the Congo. The limited consensus obtainable at present among the great powers, and also the increased wariness which "third world" countries have shown with regard to UN peacekeeping operations, apply likewise outside the UN framework.

Accordingly, while we can expect some demands on the UN to undertake further peacekeeping operations, we anticipate that, in the near future, the scope will be limited. In our judgment, the field is sufficiently restricted that it would not alone offer a basis for a responsible contribution to the maintenance of peace and security in the world. Hence, even if we disregard the case which I have put for Canada continuing to make a contribution to collective defence arrangements on a continuing basis, I could not, in good conscience, suggest that Canada could make an appropriate contribution to world security by concentrating at the present time only on participating in peacekeeping operations.