

on protecting from Kremlin interference their political freedom and their cultural and linguistic heritage.

With callous disregard for earlier recognition of the independence of those states and with no thought for the treaties of friendship and non-interference legally binding between them and the U.S.S.R., the Red Army was deployed to subjugate many small but proud nations. And so it has been that, even in the period of progress elsewhere, that is since 1939, the U.S.S.R. has incorporated over 260,000 square miles of additional territory with a population of 22 million people. Employing tactics devised in the earlier revolutionary period with some refinements of more recent times, the Soviet empire in the last 23 years has absorbed the Baltic states, the Kurile Islands, South Sakhalin, Tannu Tuva (formerly a part of Mongolia), certain Finnish provinces, certain Polish provinces, Bessarabia and Northern Bukovina (formerly belonging to Roumania), East Prussia and Ruthenia (formerly a part of Czechoslovakia and predominantly Ukrainian in speech and culture).

Moreover, this spread of Soviet domination has always been accompanied by a systematic suppression of political nationalism in the subject areas and by the subversion of long-cherished cultures, languages and religions. And when resistance proved stubborn, the U.S.S.R. used deportation as a method of consolidating its rule. No less than seven minority nations were deported from their native regions and it was not until 1957 that any pretense was made to restore to some of them even a token of their deprived rights.

This is but a small part of the Soviet record of tyranny. And it is a sorry record for a nation holding great power status in this Organization. It lays bare the reasons why the U.S.S.R. and its supporters spend so much time in United Nations debates criticizing and condemning the actions of others.

It explains why the Soviet representatives on the Special Committee of Seventeen have engaged in tactics which could have no purpose but to disrupt the work of the Committee. Clearly Soviet representatives were seeking to cover, with a smoke screen of