

of the Foreign Ministers of Poland and Czechoslovakia have given us little opportunity to reach a common ground. I sincerely hope, however, that Mr. Vyshinsky meant that he had it in his mind to make the kind of constructive proposals for which I appealed at the beginning of my remarks this morning.

It must not be forgotten that the North Korean and Chinese Communists -- and those who speak for them here -- could have brought about a cease-fire had they been willing to accept the compromise offer of the United Nations. And that would have paved the way for the political conference which they desire on Korea and other Far Eastern questions, easing the dangerous tensions and strains which exist in that region. If, however, they are not willing to accept the specific offers of the United Nations, let them in turn, within the principle of these offers as contained in the Indian resolution, make forward-looking proposals which we may consider, and let them do so at once.

Was it to something of this nature that Mr. Vyshinsky was alluding? It is notable that the Soviet Union representative avoided, during his discussion of the matter, any reference to the problem which loomed so large at the first part of this session; that is, the question of the repatriation of prisoners-of-war. This time, there was no insistence on the business of our contention that there should be no forcible repatriation. Most of Mr. Vyshinsky's remarks were confined to his own resolution and to a recital of current United States foreign policy; the subject matter which engaged so much of his attention last autumn in answer to Mr. Acheson was almost completely avoided in the statement made the other day. Does that signify that there have been some other thoughts on this problem and that we may look for a co-operative response of our offers? Again let me say I earnestly hope so, for the matter of the cessation of fighting is of the utmost importance; the lives of human beings depend on it.

We must be patient and painstaking and explore every possibility. That is what we are doing now. I must, however, repeat and issue a warning that we stand by the principles of the General Assembly resolution. There can be no question at all of our abandoning those principles. We do not want to hear from Mr. Vyshinsky and others who may speak later merely old proposals dressed in new clothes. If, however, they have anything new to propose which is not contrary to the principles of our resolution, I hope such a proposal will be forthcoming at once.

It would be most unfortunate if no new lead were forthcoming. For it appears to us that the United Nations would then be faced with distressing alternative situations: either the war would be continued in its present state, or the tempo of the war would be increased. In both cases there would lurk the ever-present peril of the war's extension. And there is no need for either alternative. It is the strong determination of my Government and other United Nations governments that the Korean war should