

seems to my delegation to be a good statement of the case, and it is noteworthy that the Staff Council, in its paper of comments on the report of the Secretary-General, endorses this statement.

It may be that sometimes a situation will arise in which one may experience an intellectual and moral difficulty in harmonizing loyalties to one's own state and to the organization in which one is working. This will rarely happen, and still more rarely will the loyalties, upon examination, prove irreconcilable. However great the difficulty, the end is clear - nobody may remain a member of the Secretariat who is not loyal to the United Nations. On that there can be no compromise. It must also be recognized that a staff member desiring to act according to his convictions might occasionally be deterred by the fear of possible practical consequences. But our experience gives us every reason to expect that the integrity of its members and their demonstrated devotion to the concept of international service will remain firm as one of the three main supports of the independence of the Secretariat of the United Nations.

This independence has a second main support - the undertaking given by every member nation, under Article 100 of the Charter, to respect the exclusively international character of the Secretariat's responsibilities and not to seek to influence its members. It is the duty of each of the governments represented here to refrain from making demands on members of the Secretariat or on the Secretary-General incompatible with the principles to which we have all agreed. It is clear that existing international tensions are making it difficult for some governments to withstand the temptation not to honour to the full their undertaking in this important matter. It is vital to the future of the United Nations, it seems to us, that this temptation be successfully resisted.

The main source of support for the preservation of the essential characteristics of the Secretariat must, of course, be the Secretary-General himself, as Mr. Trygve Lie has so fully recognized. This is the logical, the inevitable, complement of the powers and responsibilities given him in the Charter and in the Staff Regulations. He is the constitutional defender of the liberties of the Secretariat and the champion of fair treatment for any individual members of that body who, while acting according to their honest and sincere convictions and with good intent and reasonable judgment, may yet find themselves in difficulties. The paper of the Staff Council makes this point in its seventh paragraph, and it is a point on which I am confident all will agree.

In the position of difficulty and delicacy in which he has found himself, the Secretary-General has been confronted with all these obligations: first, those -- to which I have just referred -- toward his staff; secondly, those toward the member states which are hosts to one or more United Nations bodies and with which he must maintain satisfactory relations if his organization is to function efficiently; and, finally and chiefly, his obligations toward all member states, whose collective servant he is, and to the constitution and the purposes of the United Nations.