

an aggressor be practicable; they should be determined upon in relation to the general strategic and political situation and their possible effects in dangerously weakening the strength of the Free World in areas of greater importance;

(4) we should recognize our limitations in this way even when we have formally condemned the aggressor. There is nothing immoral in this. Nor does it mean that there is one law to be applied to the strong and another to the weak. It does mean, as Mr. Pearson said, that "the responsibility of defending the Free World is so grave that those who share it will require the highest qualities of intelligence, as well as the most sensitive consciences, in deciding where the limited forces at their disposal should be applied". With the growing strength of the free nations these delicate problems of decision will tend to diminish.

There can be little doubt that the United Nations intervention in Korea has given new validity to the principle of collective security and added new strength to the United Nations itself. Furthermore the experience gained in the organization of collective United Nations action, in the establishment and operation of a United Nations Command, and in the provision and maintenance of United Nations Forces will certainly prove valuable in the future.

During recent months a special Committee of the General Assembly, the "Collective Measures Committee" upon which Canada is represented has been examining these practical problems of collective action. The report of this Committee will bring into sharp focus the central issue of the role of the United Nations in the event of a general war.

So much for my attempt to review with you the present state of the United Nations and to examine the prospects of the United Nations in its efforts to discharge the basic task committed to it six years ago. Whatever its imperfections the United Nations remains an established forum where the Soviet and free worlds meet; and an institution committed to the maintenance of international peace and security by collective means.

Six years is not long in the life of a nation; still less in the history of man's long effort to develop the institutions which will save him from self destruction. The struggle to build these institutions of order and peace must be pressed forward with all the intelligence, energy and ingenuity of the free nations. The record and prospects of the United Nations in its brief and stormy course proves it worthy of our steady faith and work.

Finally, let us remember that no human institution, however perfect, can work if there is no desire to make it work. To quote my Minister once more: "the United Nations is not an entity in itself. It is the sum total of the wills of its members and of the combined contribution they are willing to make". The United Nations has shown itself to have great vitality. Canadians will, I believe, continue undiscouraged to support it, to work in it and for it with sober confidence that, if time be given it will at last deliver mankind from the age old tragedy of war.