

6. The gain in prestige for the United Nations, as well as for the West, which has taken place as a result of the outcome of the Cuban crisis... U Thant has played a significant role in these negotiations, and there can be little doubt that Soviet prestige has fallen in the United Nations and in the eyes of the uncommitted nations of the world.

Sino-Indian Dispute

In this international review I also dealt briefly with the Chinese attack on India. Here again, NATO is vitally concerned with all the developments arising from that unfortunate conflict. Canada feels that India must not be expected to rush to align herself with the West--or, for example, to make application to join NATO. Some people may think that would be very nice, but if India were to give up her unaligned position she would certainly lose a great deal of her standing in Asia and in Africa. We have quite a good understanding of India; there is not only the Commonwealth relationship but we serve with India in the United Nations Emergency Force in the Gaza Strip and in the Congo forces, as well as on the Supervisory Commissions in Indochina. We believe India's position should be viewed with a great deal of sympathy by the members of the NATO alliance.

In the military field, the second day was devoted to a consideration of military questions. I think the most significant feature of that discussion was the suggestion by the United States that there is now ample deterrent capability on the Western side. Of course there is great deterrent power on the Communist side as well, with the result that it is very unlikely that either of the great nuclear powers would wish to precipitate a nuclear war and the resulting terrible destruction that would ensue. Thus it follows that the crises are likely to be of a nature not quite serious enough to precipitate a nuclear war. In other words the Communists may go just so far that they do not actually precipitate a nuclear war.

There is a realization that NATO forces could be improved considerably to deal with that type of situation. In Europe there are, of course, some proposals for a European nuclear deterrent in the shape of medium-range ballistic missiles. This question was not decided. It will be studied further by the Council. It involves great expenditures; these missiles cost a great deal of money, and I think the European nations would be expected to provide a good deal of the cold, hard cash for such a deterrent. There would also be the question of control, how they would be handled and so on. The Europeans seem to favour land-based medium-range ballistic missiles, while the United States is more interested in having such a force at sea.

Conventional Forces

With regard to the conventional forces, there was a plea made by the United States for strengthening them, but this would not apply to Canada; in effect the proposal was made to the European nations... Canada