

benefit of any doubt as to its interest in peace, and they now await constructive Soviet suggestions. There was no general surrender to Soviet views, and obvious abuse of its position by a great power would call forth a vigorous reaction from others....

I agree with U Thant who observed in an extensive report on the subject this summer, that there is danger that much of the controversy will, at times, seem "somewhat academic in nature" if we confine it to fine points of Charter interpretation. It is the vivid realities of particular peace-keeping operations which we must keep before us -- the men, the organizational effort, the risks and the accomplishments and all the visible evidence of United Nations presence and prestige in troubled areas. The subject is not an academic one for me. I think of the Canadian troops I have visited in Cyprus, where they wear the blue beret of the United Nations and maintain an international presence in an area only too susceptible to violence. The world has experienced enough of the paralysis of fear and indecision and of annihilating war. It is good to see, in the operations I have discussed, evidence of courage, reason and civilized order.

There are many difficulties in undertaking such operations. Some could fail. Not every challenge can possibly be met. The advisability of acting in each situation must be considered most carefully in the light of our experience. But these words of caution could be used of any new and hopeful ventures in international co-operation or in the general progress of human society. Caution must not destroy our will for peace.

I recall the moving words of Dag Hammarskjöld when he spoke at a celebration in Williamsburg commemorating the 1776 Virginia Declaration of Rights. He spoke in terms particularly meaningful for an American audience about the growth of belief in the dignity of man. His words apply to all United Nations efforts to remove fear and support human dignity.

He said: "It is when we all play safe that we create a world of the utmost insecurity. It is when we all play safe, that fatality will lead us to our doom. It is 'in the dark shade of courage' alone that the spell can be broken."

We have always needed courage to do something new. We need courage now to act for peace.

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