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We Norwegians are proud that we have been able to make our contribution to this fight. But we fully realize that our country could never be liberated without the help of all our Allies. We shall never forget that Great Britain stood firm in the summer and autumn of 1940 when everything seemed to crumble, and we have an unforgettable impression of the immense war effort of the British nation in the years which have passed. Our people have with admiration followed the Red Army in their heroic defensive battles and in their victorious offensive. And we are deeply grateful to the Soviet-Russian forces who came as friends to liberate the northernmost part of our country. Our people have highly appreciated their kindness and helpfulness and their loyal co-operation with the Norwegian authorities. We also know that victory could never have been won without the overwhelming contribution of the United States of America. That is not only due to the economic and technical resources of that country but also to the enthusiasm, courage, and faith of its people. Nor shall we ever forget the almost unbelievable stand and fortitude of our Chinese allies in their fight against the Japanese.

It is my firm conviction that victory which will soon be ours, has only been made possible by the trustful cooperation and understanding between the great powers, and I believe it imperative that the future peace and security be built on the same foundation. As we stood together in war, we must stand together in peace.

We Norwegians have come here to assist and not to offer negative criticism. We know that the Dumbarton Oaks Proposals are not perfect, and we welcome a number of the amendments that have been suggested. But even if the Charter as molded at this Conference will not correspond to all our desires and ideas, we hope that the building of a new security order will be started under such conditions that in the future it may be further developed in a process of continuous creation.

An International Organization as envisaged in the Dumbarton Oaks Proposals means perhaps even more to small nations than to the greater countries, because in the modern world, without security, their very life is at stake.

Norway is the only northern European country among the United Nations, and we should have been more than glad if our sister nations could have been with us here today. Our sympathy goes to our friends in Denmark, who, under

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difficult circumstances, have stoutly resisted a common enemy; in spirit they are with us, and we are confident that when the time comes, all the northern countries will want to join this great fraternity of nations.

In the political tradition of Norway, the idea has never been accepted that there must be an intrinsic conflict of interests between large and small countries. All the members of the United Nations are bound together, not only by their vital interests in protection against aggression, but also by their ideas and ideals which have found their expression in the Atlantic Charter and in the United Nations Declaration. In any new world order the great powers will have to shoulder the main burden of providing the military and material means for maintaining peace, and we are prepared to grant them an international status corresponding to their responsibility and power. But at the same time, we have a strong feeling that also moral standards should be taken into account. To our people who have lived under Axis occupation, it seems essential that this Conference should include among the principles of its organization the aspirations expressed in the United Nations declarations: To defend life, liberty, independence, and religious freedom, to preserve human rights.

We have to bear in mind what has also been mentioned by preceding speakers that the enforcement of peace is only one aspect of international security. In view of the establishment of the new Security Organization we trust that a period of political stability will follow this war. This will mean a concentration on the part of the participating nations on the constructive efforts in international cooperation. Turning thus to the work which will devolve on the General Assembly and through the General Assembly on the Economic and Social Council, I would like to stress that economic, social, and intellectual cooperation form a whole. Without such cooperation, our efforts might prove futile in the years to come. We hope to bring to the future deliberations and labors of the new Organization the spirit and experience of a community which for centuries has been built on the respect for law and justice. The profound belief in social justice and an unswerving attachment to fundamental human rights and freedoms, deeply rooted in our traditions, have been the rock upon which the Nazi attacks upon our convictions have been wrecked.

It is obvious that lasting peace must be based on economic progress and social justice. We stand together

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