

"Then we went on to point out that there is a contact with the Communist world in the disarmament negotiations which are going on in Geneva. I did not deal with this subject at any length, but Canada is one of the four NATO countries represented on the Disarmament Committee and, of course, it is a very good field in which to negotiate.

"We also dealt with the relationship between NATO and the United Nations. In days gone by there has been a tendency in NATO to write down the United Nations, for quite frequently NATO nations have been criticized in New York, Canada has felt that more importance should be placed in NATO on the activities of the United Nations. For example, we pointed out several ways in which NATO's position had been improved by activities at the United Nations within the last year, and perhaps the House might be interested in these six examples which I gave.

1. The increasing support which U Thant is receiving and which indirectly undermines the prospects for the *troika* approach.

2. The determined current effort to find a solution in the Congo and to reduce United Nations operations and costs. These are all examples of how United Nations activities have been of great help to NATO.

3. The satisfactory outcome of Belgium's transfer of power in Rwanda and Burundi.

4. France's brilliant achievement in bringing independence to Algeria.

5. The decision of the International Court on the sharing of the peace-keeping expenditures of the United Nations.

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. As Hon. Members know, 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.

"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.

"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 strengthened her conventional forces a year ago at the time of the Berlin crisis. We were very pleased to have it pointed out, not by ourselves but by the military authorities and the United States, that Canada had lived up to her commitments and, for example, that our Brigade was the only combat ready unit in the NATO forces other than those of the United States. In spite of rumours which I have seen in the press at home since my return, there was not a word of criticism of Canada's military efforts in NATO.

"There was also a discussion on research development and production. As you know...in NATO Canada has always been in favour of sharing arrangements for this type of development, and the Minister of National Defence made a statement to that effect in the course of the discussions.

"Finally there was a discussion about special aid to Greece to help her with her defence expenditures. She is unable to continue the heavy expenses to which she is committed, and all the nations, or most of them in any event, are now arranging to give her some help with her defence costs. For example, Canada in 1963, subject to Parliamentary approval, will provide \$1 million in the way of spare parts for planes which Canada supplied to Greece at an earlier date, and also \$1 million in the shape of foodstuffs for the Greek army. Greece is a strong, close friend of Canada, and is very grateful to us for taking this position.

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