

Korea happens to be the particular place where the communist fist has now struck. The challenge, of course, is far wider than Korea, but it is of significance that an Asian country was picked by international communism as the scene of the present attack. It is there, the communists may have thought, that they would have a good chance to achieve their aggressive purposes with the minimum of interference. Korea is a remote spot on the map, strategically not very important, and, furthermore, a country which was itself divided. It was possible, in Korea as it has been possible elsewhere, for the war in Korea to be fought by satellites, by Asian troops alone. Therefore, when the United Nations intervened, the war could then be mis-represented, as it is being mis-represented, as one of Asian popular forces against those of western imperialist capitalism. Where the communists miscalculated was in the swiftness of United Nations reaction, under the determined and courageous leadership of the United States, and on the possibility of that reaction expressing itself through the immediate use of armed forces which were close at hand in Japan.

Canada is one of 53 countries which has supported this action of the United Nations against the communist aggressor, and we are one of a half a dozen countries which has already made its support effective. That support - including support from Canada - will grow in strength, as the United Nations gathers its forces to meet and defeat the challenge. While this is being done, however, American and Korean troops are gallantly and tenaciously holding the line in the face of great difficulties. As is inevitable when an aggression is committed, (we know this from bitter experience), those who defend peace are at an initial disadvantage, while defensive force is being gathered. Democracy is normally a slumbering giant and it takes a shock to awaken it to action. I think that we have had that shock, and that the necessary action will be taken. It must be taken. It should not have caused surprise, however, if the United Nations, which was frustrated, by Soviet obstruction, in its earlier plans to have armies available to defeat an aggressor, did not have sufficient force immediately to throw back this planned Korean attack. But that will be done, and Canada will play - indeed, is playing - an honourable part in doing it. It may, however, be a tough job and take longer than was originally expected. Nor should it be done at the expense of larger plans to defend the free world against aggression elsewhere; possibly in more vital areas. Defence now means, for all free countries, far more than land forces for Korea. It also means a job which cannot be done as a mere side show which will not interfere with the main performance of ordinary civilian activity. It will cost the free countries - including Canada - much in sweat and treasure now, if they are to prevent the later and infinitely harder payment of tears, blood and destruction.

Let us not try to deceive ourselves that we can have protection without special effort. That effort involves - or should involve - far more than a contribution to United Nations forces in Korea. Nevertheless, Korea has provided the shock which has awakened us to its necessity. We should be very clear, therefore, as to what this Korean operation means. If we fail here, we may later fail in more important places.

The communists will try to represent anything the United Nations does now in Korea as assistance to American imperialists against an Asian people struggling to be free. Mr. Malik is already doing his vicious best at Lake Success, through the technique of the big and constantly repeated lie, to create this fiction. With devilish ingenuity and energy worthy of a better cause, this "big lie" is being drummed into the minds of the Asian