

increased attention on the strengthening of the political, economic and social ties which are needed to make this alliance more effective. Grave problems must be faced as we attempt to work out the answers within the NATO grouping, yet something must be done and all must be prepared to give and take.

Canadians must keep in constant focus an additional unique arrangement within NATO, which is so important to Canada. I am thinking of the Canada-United States regional grouping for the defence of North America, a mutual arrangement for defence collaboration, which originated 16 years ago in the historic Ogdensburg Agreement in 1940.

May I suggest that international security is not only buttressed by international organizations and the availability of adequate forces to sanction right which may be violated; it requires also a moral and spiritual foundation.

In this connection I should like to refer to what I consider to be a significant statement of principle in the radio address of the Prime Minister on November 4:

Our aim is that the people of Eastern Europe should be free to choose their own form of government, a basic human right they have not enjoyed for many years.

Thoughtful Canadians welcome this reaffirmation of our basic moral and democratic integrity, as it relates to our efforts to see to it that justice and liberty are accorded to all presently-enslaved peoples.

We have witnessed a spontaneous and encouraging interest on the part of our people in the current struggle of Poland and Hungary for national freedom and a larger measure of justice. That is as it should be. I hope that this interest remains alive, and that we continue to examine the ways and means by which this interest can be translated into purposive, effective, though peaceful, international action.

May I remind honourable senators of the equally significant, less dramatic perhaps, but infinitely more lengthy and equally determined struggle for a large measure of international freedom and justice on the part of those peoples who have been aptly termed the "submerged nations" within the USSR. It seems hardly necessary to remind ourselves that in Soviet Russia, which is a huge multinational empire, the constituent minorities have been oppressed longer and therefore sublimated, decimated, and Russified more effectively. Perhaps that is one of the reasons why we hear less about them. I am not speaking in a sense of recrimination; but when the Western world expressed deep sympathy for the severe curtailment and active persecution of religious freedom in Poland and Hungary, the shocking martyrdom and

destruction of the Ukrainian Catholic and Orthodox churches engendered far less sustained interest or indignant reaction. Nor is this the occasion for documenting the record of communist Russia's colonial exploitation and suppression of national and human rights, but this record does exist and it is indeed a tragic story.

Now, when we consider the continued plight of all these peoples and minorities, how indeed do we interpret our moral obligation to bring closer the day when the people of Eastern Europe might be free to choose their own form of government, a basic human right they have not enjoyed for years? Is it realistic that we may, on the international arena, continue to discuss the shocking reality of the colonial subjugation of the many individuals, minorities and nations within the Soviet Empire, firmly challenging the Soviet authorities to continued rationalization and liberalization of the communist system of minority government—and reiterating our belief that a free vote be taken to assess what in fact are the real wishes of these submerged and effectively-muzzled peoples? Many thoughtful observers believe that this is the challenge which the Soviet leaders are not prepared to accept, and one of our recurrent themes might well be an expression of our hope that the professed stability of the communist structure be subjected to the free existence of opposition parties and the free expression of the considered will of its peoples.

Honourable senators, I commend to your attention the last paragraph of the Prime Minister's letter to Mr. Bulganin, dated November 13, dealing with the Hungarian situation:

The Government and people of Canada have no desire to influence the form of government chosen by the peoples of Eastern Europe. Our only aim is that they should be free to do so, and the governments so chosen should steer their own independent courses, respecting the equal rights of all their neighbours and bearing in mind only the needs and wishes of their own people in accordance with the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter.

Surely, too, our people must understand and remember that we have no validated evidence to disprove our conviction that Soviet objectives continue to remain the same; their simple and unaltered aim—eventual communist world domination. True, Soviet tactics do zigzag, but these manoeuvres depend on what the powerful state mechanism with its present oligarchical leadership regards to be the most fruitful approach in effectuating its premeditated calculus of conquest, which envisages the destruction and the communizing of the so-called capitalist Western democracies.