

principles; other members of the United Nations can also encourage them to do so, by persuasion, by reassurance, by exercising restraint and by adherence themselves to the general principles outlined in the resolution, both in this and other areas of the world.

Let me emphasize this point again. It seems to my delegation that the noteworthy fact of this United Nations endeavour to serve the cause of peace in the Middle East is this: we have seen the parties to a dispute willingly and spontaneously joining together, with the unanimous assent of the international community, to entrust to a third party, the representative of the United Nations, a task which they had been unable, in their normal relations with one another, to accomplish. We may indeed find this a valuable precedent for future action.

The Far East

Distinguished representatives have referred to the situation in the Far East, and in our view it is both appropriate and necessary that the United Nations should pay attention to the danger that the conflict in the Taiwan Straits might spread to engulf more than the Chinese off-shore islands. We should then be faced with a very serious threat indeed to the peace of the world. I record that the Canadian Prime Minister, speaking in Parliament on September 6, 1958, said that he thought that people wanted to be assured that nothing would be left undone to prevent any action that might result in the world sliding into disaster. And he suggested that it might devolve upon the United Nations to exercise responsibility in this direction.

Well, Mr. President, I think we were all encouraged by the fact that the representatives of the United States and of the Peking Government resumed direct negotiations with one another through conversations between their ambassadors in Warsaw. We still hope very earnestly that this quarrel can be settled peacefully, rather than through a resort to force, with all its parlous consequences.

There is, of course, another side to the matter. Peace cannot be won by giving way to force -- that is a lesson which has been learned at heavy cost in our times and we cannot afford to forget it. Negotiations, if they are to mean anything, must not be conducted under the duress of concurrent aggressive military actions. If, therefore, the leaders of the Peking Government wish to take advantage of the possibility of arrangements for a peaceful solution of the present dispute over disposition of the islands being made as a result of negotiations, they must be prepared to enter into an agreement to desist from the use of force. I am bound to say that such a solution would be very greatly helped by a disposition to abandon the threat of force and the techniques of force by the Nationalist Government