

Let me now refer briefly to the operations of the Agency. During the first year following the establishment of the Agency, a good deal of uncertainty existed about the role which the Agency might play in the absence of an armistice in Korea. It was necessary for agreement to be worked out among the various authorities responsible for both military and civilian activities in that country. During this period of uncertainty the operations of the Agency were inevitably not very extensive. I might add in this particular regard that the functions of the Korean Relief Agency have heretofore been hampered not only by the necessary practical limitations imposed by the conditions of war but also obviously by the refusal of the Communists to recognize its good intentions or to participate in or facilitate its work. Is it too strong (I am sure it is not) to say that they have shown the same obstructive attitude, for example, towards the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea, that other body which we - the United Nations - have set up to help the Korean Republic in our name? I feel impelled at this point to say a word of commendation to this Commission, which has worked faithfully and hard in difficult circumstances to carry out its duties both to Korea and to the United Nations.

I feel sure that all those governments which voted in favour of the original resolution will be gratified to learn, from the annex to the Report of the Agent-General, that satisfactory arrangements to enable the Agency to carry out the functions it was created to perform have now been worked out with the responsible authorities. For the first time, operations on a substantial scale should be possible. We trust that this is so.

Now, a welcome development occurred in November of last year. In that month the Advisory Committee approved a \$70 million programme submitted by the Agent-General for the year ending June 30, 1953. This consisted of specific projects which had already been approved by the Unified Command and the Korean Government. This programme, we are pleased to note, included reconstruction and rehabilitation items such as transport, communications, power, housing, health and education. It is most encouraging to learn from the Report of the Agent-General that it has been possible for him to make progress in implementing this \$70 million reconstruction programme.

We express the hope that the Agent-General will continue to keep the Advisory Committee fully informed of developments in carrying out the reconstruction programme and that the Agency will press forward with this programme.

We wish to emphasize that in our view the long-term reconstruction of the war-damaged Korean economy is and should continue to be the main function of the Agency. We fully realize, of course, the importance in emergencies of providing relief to alleviate immediate personal distress in Korea. However, we would hope, that current relief measures would be adequate to meet this problem. I should add that a number of Canadian voluntary bodies have joined with other national and international organizations and agencies in providing supplies to cope with emergency situations.

I make this assertion because it is our view that in the end capital reconstruction constitutes the only solution to the great economic problems which are faced in Korea both by the Government of Korea and by the United Nations. For this reason, my delegation wishes to place on record its hope that the Agency will remain primarily concerned with reconstruction rather than