

persecutions have not shown any improvement. On the contrary, if there has been any change, I would say that it has been towards a greater absence of goodwill and of good faith. In the light of these considerations, my delegation is painfully aware of the futility at this moment of placing before the General Assembly any draft resolution or of inviting the United Nations or the Secretary-General to take specific action on the problem. But the Canadian Delegation, nevertheless, desires to protest formally and with all its energy, before this Committee and before the United Nations, against the systematic persecutions which rage practically everywhere behind the Iron Curtain and which are disposing in the most horrible manner of millions of human beings whose only crime has been their desire to be free....." (1)

MEDIATION THROUGH THE UNITED NATIONS:

With the Security Council lacking the power to bring force to bear upon parties to a dispute, the United Nations has gradually developed less forthright but more flexible means of carrying out its responsibilities. In dealing with threats to the maintenance of international peace, there has been increasing emphasis on mediation and conciliation by United Nations bodies and frequently by special groups or individuals appointed for the purpose. It was the United Nations that brought an end to large-scale hostilities in Palestine. The United Nations also effected a cease-fire in Kashmir and brought the dispute between India and Pakistan within a framework of negotiation. In helping to create the independent state of Indonesia, the United Nations not only halted a serious war but assisted a fine and ancient civilization in taking its place in the family of nations.

Our background of tolerance and compromise, made necessary within our own borders by reason of our dual language and heritage, and our freedom of action as a middle power have enabled Canada as a member state of the United Nations to serve on occasion as an informal mediator. Late in 1949, in his capacity as President of the Security Council, General A.G.L. McNaughton was appointed to assist representatives of India and Pakistan in finding a solution to the dispute over Kashmir. His efforts to secure agreement on demilitarization were not successful, but the Security Council adopted a resolution embodying the proposals he had advanced.

In the dispute which followed the return to Indonesia of the Netherlands administering authorities after

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Statement by the Hon. Paul Martin, Acting Chairman of the Canadian Delegation to the Seventh Session of the U.N. General Assembly made in the Third Committee on December 17, 1952--External Affairs Monthly Bulletin, January, 1953, pp.28-31.