

of them women, children and civilians - did not spare a single Leningrad family. The survivors of that cruel conflict do not regard war as an abstract concept, as a glorious pursuit or as a credible means of resolving disputes. War to them is the loss before one's eyes of loved ones, of home, of possessions, of hope.

To achieve a satisfactory, just and continuing peace requires a climate of confidence, a climate in which men of differing social and economic systems trust one another. There is no simple way in which this can be done, but neither is there the slightest doubt that it must be done. Equally, confidence can be engendered only by increasing contact of governments and of people. In this way, gradually, and sometimes painfully, we can continue and accelerate the slow progress toward a world in which the foremost goals of every government of every country must be the attainment of social justice, fundamental human rights and the dignity and worth of all human beings.

Because tolerance and good will are nowhere so evident as they are in Canada, Canadians are possessed of an uncommon opportunity to urge all men everywhere to pursue these universal goals. I attempted to do so while in the Soviet Union, where I expressed to Premier Kosygin the widespread concern in Canada over the alleged refusal of the Soviet Government to permit its Jewish citizens to emigrate to Israel or to other countries of their choice. I was assured by Mr. Kosygin that these allegations were not well-founded and that, in particular, his Government had permitted the exit to Israel for many months of significant numbers of Soviet Jews. I might add that Mr. Kosygin's statement has been corroborated by the Canadian Government from other, independent sources.

I seized the opportunity to urge Mr. Kosygin to permit persons of all ethnic origins with relatives in Canada to come here and thus reunify the many families which have been split tragically for many years.

He assured me that his Government would not place unjustifiable barriers in the way of those persons and he promised that he would give personal attention to the list of names of such persons which I took with me to Moscow.

In another area entirely, I was able to discuss with Mr. Kosygin the concern and fear expressed by our East Coast fishermen over the practices of Soviet Atlantic fishing fleet. I pointed out to him the immense increase in recent years of the Soviet catch, the decrease in the Canadian catch and the vital need for conservation of this important food resource in the interests of both our countries. Mr. Kosygin observed that the Soviet Union was a party to the North Atlantic fisheries convention and had a profound interest in a long-lasting and healthy fish stock. We agreed that this issue was deserving of further talks.

Only time will tell whether the warm welcome which was accorded me in the U.S.S.R. reflects the commencement of an era in Canadian-Soviet relations as advantageous as we all hope will be the case. I prefer to be optimistic and I am urging all government departments to exploit these new openings. I urge Canadian businessmen to accept the new challenge. For our part as Canadians, I assured the Soviet leaders that there was no impediment in our desire for better and more mutually beneficial relations. In the pursuit of those benefits I am happy to report to the House the exceedingly high reputation and the impressive competence of the Canadian