

ANSWER: Well there I don't know that I can give you any specific answer beyond repeating what I have just said. I think that every good example is helpful on the way to a general easing of world tension and to the working out of intelligent bases upon which man can live and let live.

QUESTION: You say that we have come to the point of realizing that nobody wins anything by war. Would you still advocate, in the face of this observation, derived from experience, that it would still be desirable to arm nations?

ANSWER: Well, I would hope that for my country the world situation would before too long become such that we could devote a lot of what we are spending for armed forces to the development of the resources of our country and the improvement of the living standards of our people.

QUESTION: Today, Sir, in this region of the world, in addition to the economic strengthening under the Colombo Plan, do you feel that military security is also important?

ANSWER: Well, I feel that it is unfortunate that we of the West (I prefer to speak of the West rather than of the East), that we of the West felt that, if we wanted security, we were not getting the assurances of security from the United Nations and the Security Council that made us confident in our undertakings for the wider development of our resources, and it was to create a situation where aggression might not be attractive that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization was formed. And it is to carry out our commitments to the up-building of joint strength for the main purpose of making it unattractive for aggression to be started that we are devoting, oh, something over 40 per cent of our annual budget to military expenditure.

QUESTION: You prefer to speak as the West, but Canada, under the Atlantic Pact is linked with Turkey and Turkey is now having a pact with Pakistan, which involves you in the security problems of South-East Asia. Would you say anything on the subject?

ANSWER: Well, here our express commitments are to stand together in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to repel aggression against any member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. That is the extent of the pact which we have signed and which our Parliament has approved. Now we feel, you know, that we have committed ourselves to the full extent of the commitments that a government can make and expect to remain a government in that North Atlantic Treaty Organization.