

the continuance of this neutralization of Formosa so long as the war in Korea makes that necessary. We are in some doubt, however, as to whether any more comprehensive action by the United Nations over Formosa could usefully be taken at this time.

Finally, I should like to suggest that these convulsions in the immediate foreground in Asia, alarming as they are, should not entirely divert our attention from the problems which lie behind them. In the background looms the monumental and age-long problem of poverty in Asia. Starvation and distress have provided the climate in which the infection of Marxist Communism could take hold. There can be no continuing tranquility in Asia until a start has been made in improving the well-being of its people. Food, shelter and clothing - these must be supplied at least in minimum quantities before there can be political stability. In this task help will be needed from countries in the West. And here again I am glad to be able to report that the United Nations is showing vigour and imagination. During this meeting of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council has been called in extraordinary session to work out a plan for rehabilitation in Korea. Clearly this is a responsibility which the United Nations must shoulder if the victory of its forces in Korea is not to be hollow. Shattered houses and ruined factories would seem a sorry emblem of victory to the people in whose country the fighting has taken place. The United Nations has also been taking action in New York to speed its plans for technical assistance in all the under-developed countries of the world, so that increasingly those peoples which have not hitherto shared in the technical advance which has been so remarkable in the West will be helped to help themselves. This approach offers one of the most practical and promising ways, I think, of eliminating the poverty in Asia on which communism feeds and fattens.

In a great number of ways, then, I would maintain the United Nations is showing renewed vigour and energy. The problems which face it are still enormous and complex. But it may well be that a historian looking back at the crisis which beset the organization last June will feel that it should be regarded as a temporary fever from which the organization has emerged in better health than ever before. By resisting the virus of aggression it has developed in itself new strengths which should enable it to meet successfully whatever challenges the future may present. In meeting those challenges, our country, Canada, will, I know, continue to play its part.

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