



STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION
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INDIAN RESOLUTION ON KOREA

Statement by the Acting Chairman of the Canadian Delegation to the United Nations General Assembly, Mr. Paul Martin, made in the First (Political) Committee, on November 27, 1952.

During the discussions in this Committee, my delegation has been greatly impressed by the unanimity of purpose reflected in the statements of practically all members and by the conciliatory approach which members have taken as regards the important issue now before us. Our purpose is to press forward with proposals concerning prisoners of war which, given good faith and a willingness on both sides to reach agreement, will give us a reasonable prospect of an honourable armistice in Korea.

In blunt and depressing contrast to this unanimity of purpose and approach is the intransigent attitude of the Soviet Union and its satellites, who, though they make propaganda about their "partnership for peace", have sought to slam the door on the prospect of achieving peace in Korea.

The representative of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic who has just spoken will, I am sure, agree with me that the point of view he has expressed is consistent with the point of view expressed yesterday by Mr. Vyshinsky.

The overwhelming majority of members of this Committee will, I am confident, persist in their positive efforts to resolve our difficulties. There have been attempts, as we all know, by the representatives of the Communist States in this Assembly to divide us. These attempts have taken the form of legalisms, distortions of truth and promises of an easy solution of the Korean problem on Communist terms. The net result, however, is that we are more united today on the issue of Korea than we were before the discussion started. This unity is easily definable. There is agreement by all -- except the Soviet Union and its satellites -- that a real armistice agreement should be concluded, to be immediately followed by a cessation of hostilities. There is agreement by all -- except the Soviet Union and its satellites -- that no force should be used to effect the repatriation, or, conversely, the detention, of prisoners of war. There is agreement by all -- except the Soviet Union and its satellites -- that if the prisoners of war choose not to exercise their right to repatriation their free choice should be respected. Finally, there is agreement by all -- except the Soviet Union and its satellites -- that the United Nations should