

way affects the United States or Canada without our being consulted because they want our opinions and our views. Perhaps they feel that we have opinions and views that are worth having or perhaps they merely test them out on us; but I do not think anything is done without our first being consulted.

I noticed that the Manchester Guardian and some of the other Commonwealth countries were screaming about some of the American policies. But I think they read about them after they received their slow mail, and that somebody had forgotten to wire them. I can think of nothing of importance that has gone on in the world within the time I have been in parliament here upon which we have not been consulted and upon which we have made our views known.

Mr. GRAYDON: May I say this to Mr. Croll: He may have partly misunderstood my objection. I was not referring particularly to Canada. We in Canada are pretty close to the situation and perhaps our consultation machinery is a little bit more perfect than some others. I was thinking of the free powers, and I wondered if the thing could be improved.

Mr. CROLL: Was that not the question which Mr. Diefenbaker asked you in the House today, about the United States, and you answered that the United States was conferring with the free democracies?

Hon. Mr. PEARSON: We have had several meetings between countries which have troops in Korea. But what Mr. Graydon said about the improvement of existing machinery makes sense. We are not, any of us, satisfied for instance, that we have worked out the best method of consultation within the North Atlantic treaty organization.

Mr. GRAYDON: I suppose you could say, with respect to this consultation business, that nothing could be done; that you have to temper whatever you do in the light of the knowledge of how practical it could be. But it does seem to me that it is important to have public opinion in this country behind what is being done.

Hon. Mr. PEARSON: May I suggest one thing? In our concentration of interest over new methods of consultation, over new international agencies to be set up, we sometimes forget that we have an old and tried method of consultation through the regular diplomatic services; and in fact I will go so far as to say that in the long run it will prove to be the best form of consultation. It is very important to have it supplemented by these other agencies, but it is also important not to forget that while foreign ministers may go from conference to conference, we also have continuous diplomatic consultation and the people who take part in that form of consultation are supposed to be experts and to know their jobs. They usually do. Our best sources of information are usually the messages which we get from our representatives abroad.

Mr. CROLL: Must the minister leave now?

Hon. Mr. PEARSON: I have another ten minutes.

Mr. CROLL: Mr. Chairman, I recall, when I was at the United Nations last time, while we were there, someone from one of the other nations told me that protocol demanded that the group, belonging to the country of the man who was president, should visit the United Nations from time to time. Do you know whether that is right or not?

The CHAIRMAN: I hope it is right.

Mr. CROLL: Well then, please do something about it.

Mr. GREEN: Has any serious effort been made to get other members of the United Nations to supply forces for Korea?

Hon. Mr. PEARSON: They have all been approached, Mr. Green, more than once by the United Nations. There are now more than 20 countries which have made contributions of one kind or another. But I think there is a feeling in