

Canadian Government has kept in constant touch with the Indian Government on this question, and the Indian Government in its turn has been vigilant in watching for any sign that the Peking regime might be willing to discuss a settlement in Korea and in the Far East generally on any terms that we could even consider. Although it would certainly be improper for me to reveal what the Indian Ambassador in Peking has been reporting to his own government, I can say that his inquiries in Peking have not given any grounds for believing that the Chinese communists are yet ready to negotiate on any terms that could conceivably be acceptable to the United Nations. And that is what I meant when I said that for the time being, especially while the Chinese military offensive is going on, it would appear that there are no further steps that could be taken, either by the United Nations collectively, or by any other members individually, to bring the Chinese communists to the conference table on any conditions that we would consider.

...The possibility of securing an honourable settlement by negotiation is never being overlooked by any of the governments, any of the free governments, which are concerned with this matter; we will all continue to search for any indications that the Peking regime may be ready to discuss a settlement, and we will be energetic in taking advantage of any opportunity that we might be able to discover. Meanwhile, however, I can only repeat what I said the other day, namely, that until we get that indication in some form from Peking, and while the battle is going on, diplomacy must for the time being take a second place to arms. We can only hope that the use of those arms by the United Nations will be so effective and do so much damage to the forces of communist aggression that before long they will see reason. It may then be possible to negotiate with them on United Nations terms, and the danger of a third world war arising in that part of the world will, at least, have been avoided.

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