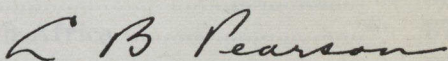


machinery for peaceful settlement. Even though we have unfortunately found it necessary to increase enormously our defences, we are doing so not because we are resigned to the arbitrament of war. We are doing so to deter aggression, to persuade aggressors to negotiate fairly and honourably. The United Nations exists amongst other things to remind the Free World continuously of the ultimate purpose of its policy and to assist it to seize every possible opportunity for negotiation and settlement.

In this time of crisis in the United Nations, it is essential that the Free World maintain its principles, while at the same time recognizing and making allowance for the limitations upon its power and resources. We must make clear that we are firmly opposed to aggression of all kinds and that if at times we are unable to meet aggression with the firmness we would wish, it is because we do not yet possess the arms to do so. We should not be ashamed to profess at the same time that the principal purpose of the United Nations is to make peace rather than wage war, and that we must therefore, no matter how strong we may become, be prepared with patience and imagination to prolong our efforts to reach a settlement.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "L B Pearson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "L".

*Secretary of State for External Affairs.*

Ottawa,

February 1951.