

security, by the development of regional pacts under the Charter of the United Nations." As an individual Canadian, I believe that we should play that "full part". I hope that conviction is shared by the great majority of my countrymen. I hope that conviction is based on entire knowledge of the initiative and responsibility which may be entailed.

Membership in the UNITED NATIONS is certainly, at the moment, no joy-ride. It does not, in present circumstances, give us that national security through collective action which it was designed to give. In the presence of the great division between eastern Europe and the rest of the world, it has not yet proven effective for dealing with problems like the defence of the Greek border. Nevertheless, I think this is a commitment of great importance in our national life. Again and again we are brought back to the conclusion that the world is a safer, better place for a country such as ours if it is organized on some basis of collective political action rather than merely in the groupings of states around big powers. Even now, in its present form, the United Nations is important to us to the extent that the conflicting objectives of big powers can be brought out into the open discussed perhaps even modified. To put the matter at its very lowest value, it is important to us that a question like Kashmir or Palestine cannot be settled by unilateral action on the part of some great power, at least until an honest effort has been made to settle it by other and less dangerous means. If there were no United Nations today, I am sure that the Canadian people would hope that one would be set up. As it is, our best interest is served by supporting it in spite of discouragements and in spite of all temptations to cynicism. It can be a long-term instrument of great importance in maintaining the chief object of our foreign policy - our own independence in a community of free states. That independence born in the political struggles of a century ago, defended in two world wars, must not be lost by indifference.

While the primary purpose of foreign policy must be to obtain national security for ourselves, its final objective is to gain stability and peace throughout the world, firmly, based on the freedom of all peoples. Only then can the full energies of the government and people of Canada be devoted to the great opportunities of national development which lie before us.

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