

respects the area covered by it, the obligations which existed under the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949. For that reason the government, although not obliged by the constitution to do so, but in accordance with well established convention or usage, requested the approval of both houses of parliament to the protocol already signed on behalf of Canada on October 17, 1951.

The protocol contains only three articles. Under Article I will be found the conditions concerning the coming into force of the protocol and the deposit of the instrument of accession with the Government of the United States on behalf of the Kingdom of Greece and the Republic of Turkey after their acceptance of the invitation extended to them.

The article to which I wish to devote the very few remarks I hope to make before resuming my seat is Article II, which contains the definition of the territory that will be covered by the North Atlantic Treaty after its extension to Turkey and to Greece. Under Articles 5 and 6 of the North Atlantic Treaty as adopted in 1949, certain territory was considered as being protected against any attack by an aggressor on the principle that any attack within that territory would be regarded as an attack against all the members of the North Atlantic Organization. According to Article 6 of the original treaty, the North Atlantic territory included only parts of North America and of Europe, but the acceptance of Turkey means that a part of Asia will now be covered by the Treaty. That is why section 1 of Article II of the Protocol refers to the territory of Turkey, and section 2 refers to forces, vessels, or aircraft of any of the parties in the Mediterranean area.

Canadians may now be wondering what effect this extension of territory may have upon their own obligations. First of all I would point out that even without the protocol, if any further aggression had been committed in Greece or if any aggression had been initiated against Turkey, our whole system of collective security would have been threatened, and it would have been necessary to intervene for any member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization merely in the interests of military strategy. In other words, it would have been the duty of all these countries, including Canada, to take whatever steps each might deem advisable to resist such aggression. Greece has already been the victim of aggression, but the situation in that country is fairly satisfactory now. Turkey has not yet been the victim of communist aggression, but time and again it has been the object of threats. Turkey has an efficient army, and its forces in Korea have distinguished themselves by their heroism and courage. The same may be said about

the Greek forces in Korea. The situation, therefore, from a practical point of view remains unchanged as far as Canada is concerned, but the idea behind the protocol is to make it clear that an act of aggression against any one of the fourteen members of the North Atlantic Treaty will be looked upon as aggression against all fourteen members. It must be clearly understood, that the Canadian people will not be obliged to make any definite contribution in men or money, and that under Article V our obligation is more or less a moral one, though I myself would consider it just as binding as any purely legal obligation.

As I have said, according to the protocol, if there is an attack against any member country of the North Atlantic Treaty, including Greece and Turkey, Canada will consider it an attack against its own territory. Consequently we agree that in accordance with the principle of collective self-defence outlined in Article LI of the charter of the United Nations, we shall assist any country or countries attacked. In other words, the North Atlantic Treaty is a purely defensive pact, and the protocol is purely a defensive agreement.

It is not for the purpose of facilitating aggression against Soviet Russia that Turkey and Greece have been invited to become members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. These two countries are considered to be essential links in our first line of defence. If any such country is attacked, we are obliged under Article V to assist that country, but the limit of our assistance is to be determined by the Canadian parliament. We are bound to assist and to take such action as we may deem necessary—including the use of force—to restore and maintain the security of the North Atlantic area as extended by this protocol. If there is an attack, the government would take any steps which might be necessary to resist aggression in a case of emergency, but would apply to parliament for approval of the course of action decided upon. It must be emphasized that the protocol does not deprive parliament of its very clear right to approve or to repudiate any action taken or recommended by the government in the case of an eventual declaration of war and the necessity to participate in military operations. I believe it is in the interest of peace that the protocol should be adopted unanimously by this house. It is in the interest of peace that Canada has signed the protocol in its present form. And it is in the interest of peace that, I trust, the protocol will be ratified by the Canadian