

steps to resist aggression in Korea and those countries which are giving moral, and in some cases diplomatic and economic, support.

The machinery of the United Nations can be used, and it must be used, to make aggression more difficult, if not impossible, and to organize opposition to it. To ignore or belittle the United Nations would be an act of irresponsibility which would gravely weaken the moral basis of our democratic way of life. We cannot pretend that the machinery, as it now stands, is perfect, but there is no substitute for it anywhere. We live in an imperfect world, and any world organization will inevitably reflect those imperfections.

It is fair to say, I think, that on the whole the recent Session of the General Assembly neither increased nor decreased the existing tension between the Soviet and the free world. On the other hand, a number of resolutions were approved which, if they can be put into effect, may serve to lessen that tension. In the main, their success will depend upon the desire of the Soviet Union to make them work.

The resolution on disarmament, which set up a new Disarmament Commission, of which Canada is a member, to consider "the regulation, limitation and balanced reduction of all armaments and armed forces", may turn out to be the major accomplishment. But the debates on disarmament in the Assembly itself and the recent meetings of the Disarmament Commission under the chairmanship of the Canadian Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York show little promise that the U.S.S.R. will be inclined to use the new Commission as a place where serious plans for disarmament and the control of atomic weapons should be studied. However, it is really still too early to estimate the value of this resolution of the Assembly, and we all must hope that steps will be taken, as a result of the discussions in the Commission during the next few months, which will bring some agreement on the very difficult questions of disclosure and international control of armed forces and armaments, including atomic weapons, so that a measure of disarmament, with its consequent easing of tension, will be possible.

Another important decision taken by the General Assembly was a resolution on collective measures, which continued the Collective Measures Committee for another year. It was encouraging to see the wide support which the principle of collective security, based on mutual contribution, received from all of the United Nations, with, of course, the exception of the Soviet bloc, and a very few other countries.

In other political fields a commission was established to look into the possibility of holding free elections throughout Germany, and this commission has been unsuccessfully seeking entrance into east Germany for that purpose. The German Federal Republic has, on the other hand, welcomed the establishment of the commission and has assisted it in its work.

A resolution on the Palestine dispute was adopted which called on the parties to resolve their differences in conformity with previous assembly resolutions. This resolution was made acceptable to all parties concerned by amendments introduced by the Canadian delegation.