

one hand it is said that total military victory is indispensable and that it can be achieved by permitting the bombing of China, by imposing a naval blockade and by employing Nationalist Chinese forces outside Formosa. I do not want to repeat at this time why I believe that that policy would be a profound mistake--but I want to state my view that such a policy would not end the war in Korea at this time but might, on the contrary, lead from limited action to unlimited action, the result of which might bring in the U.S.S.R. If it did not, in my view it would almost certainly engulf us in a full continental war with 450 million Chinese people. I cannot myself think that that is the best way of ending the war in Korea. We would be playing for high stakes indeed if we took this kind of limited action in the hope that by such limited action we could end the war in Korea without going on, if it did not succeed, to unlimited action or without bringing in anyone else.

...It may be that, in spite of all our efforts, the catastrophe of a third world war may not be avoided. It may be that, in spite of all our efforts, this conflict will extend to (continental) China. We may not have the control of that extension. But if the conflict is so extended, let the responsibility for the terror, the anguish and the devastation that it will cause rest on other hands than ours.

...What is the alternative policy? It is for the United Nations forces to continue inflicting heavy losses on the aggressors, as they are doing at the present time, and at the same time to avoid any measures which are not absolutely necessary from a military point of view, and which might lead to the spreading of the conflict.

The Possibility of a Negotiated Settlement

As I said a few days ago in this place, there have been no recent indications that the Chinese communists are in any mood to negotiate. I cannot believe, however, that the Chinese Government in Peking can be so blind to Chinese national interests as to continue indefinitely suffering the very heavy losses which are now being inflicted on their forces. So we must hope that a day will come when they will realize that it is not China but Russia which is being served by the aggression in Korea in which they have participated.

If that time comes, they may then be ready to enter into negotiations leading to a settlement in Korea and also to a settlement of other Far Eastern issues. Then, as now, the United Nations will stand ready to negotiate, as has been made clear many times, and most notably by the General Assembly when it approved overwhelmingly the statement of principles drawn up by the United Nations' cease-fire committee...

But it is necessary to remember...that all the recent efforts of the United Nations...have been, to say the least, rudely rebuffed by the Chinese communist regime. The approaches made by the Good Offices Committee have been rebuffed, and unofficial feelers by individual countries have not been any more successful. The hon. member for Kootenay West (Mr. Herridge) suggested that we might propose to the Indian Government that they contact the Peking Government with a view to entering into negotiations. The