

It is unrealistic to expect the Red Chinese government to accept invitations to attend - as a non-member observer or participant - special U.N. conferences or discussions on Far Eastern problems when China is represented in the world organization by Chiang Kai Shek representatives.

This means that when the Secretary-General wishes to talk about release of prisoners he has to do it in Peking - rather than in New York.

This is another hard fact.

I mention these matters not to indicate that we are rushing into - or should rush into - any change of policy in this matter of diplomatic recognition, in a way that would cause bitter controversy at home and with certain friendly nations. I am suggesting, however, that the time is coming and soon - when we should have another and searching look at the problem; that we should consider it also with those friendly governments with whom we like to act - and whenever possible should act together on matters of international importance. The greatest possible unity of the free world is always a major objective of Canadian policy.

In any event, I think that it is both unwise and unnecessary to declare - as has been suggested - that we will never recognize the present communist - or indeed any communist government in Peking.

In diplomacy - as indeed in some other human activities - you should "never" say "never" or, at least, hardly ever!

The hopeful developments in the last year of relations with Moscow are proof positive of the unreality and unwisdom of basing a policy on irrevocable hostility; of allowing your diplomacy to become frozen in fear and stagnation. Change does take place - though we should always be careful not to misinterpret its meaning. As we know there have recently been smiles at Geneva, picnics outside Moscow, Russians exchanging friendly words with Americans amidst the tall corn of Iowa, atomic information exchanged between American and Russian on the shores of Lac Lemane, and various other friendly activities all of which would, a few short years ago in the U.S.A., have involved at least the threat of investigation, and certainly actual accusation of appeasement or worse against some of those Americans who had taken part in them.

So in the months ahead, which will be full of activity and manoeuvre on the diplomatic front, we will need, more than ever, to maintain a sense of balance and proportion; both realism and imagination, patience and steadiness. Especially will these qualities be required as we face the new problems and the new opportunities posed by the emerging East.

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