

Everyone knows, and every honest person will admit, that all the free countries in the world want to avoid war, and most of us realize that the only way to avoid war is by positive action to prevent it. That is why we set up the United Nations. That is why twelve nations joined in the North Atlantic alliance. The last five years have shown us, however, that peaceful intentions and peaceful policies are not enough to avoid war; and that we must also have the strength to meet and to repel aggression.

You remember what happened before 1939. One successful act of Fascist aggression followed another, until the Fascist tide of conquest could be stopped only by a world war.

That must not be allowed to happen again, and it seems clear the only way to prevent it is to call a halt to aggression. That is what is being done now. There is a real chance that the final defeat of the Communist aggressors in Korea will discourage aggression in other places because the risks will appear too great.

It is going to be hard for nations hungering for peace and not yet recovered from six years of total war, once again to give first place to re-armament. But events force us to be realistic. If we are to avert the danger which threatens the free world, we must marshal and increase the resources available to resist aggression; we must build up military strength backed by industrial strength; we must accept the economic and financial policies which will enable us to maintain our strength.

All Canadians have been impressed by the expansion by the United States and Great Britain of their defence programmes; and we in the government feel the security of Canada requires further expansion of our own efforts.

Obviously it is essential to overcome the aggressors in Korea; it is just as urgent to make the free world as strong as collective efforts can make it to resist aggression anywhere.

Thus far in Korea itself, the main burden has fallen on the armed forces of the United States. This was because the United States alone had forces immediately available to throw into the struggle. These American forces have resisted a well-armed and well-trained Communist force with outstanding heroism; and the strength to turn the military tide is being built up with the greatest urgency.

We in Canada took our stand with the United Nations against this Communist aggression. Three Canadian destroyers were at once despatched to Far Eastern waters, and placed under the United Nations command. And we know they are giving a good account of themselves.

The government at once considered what other effective immediate help Canada could give in response to the appeal to all the United Nations to contribute to the necessary collective strength.

On the 19th of July I was able to announce that Canada was providing a long range RCAF transport squadron for immediate service in the Pacific air-lift at a time when transport planes were urgently needed. As you know, the squadron is already engaged in that difficult and essential task.

We decided at that time to announce only what we could do at once. As to future effective action, we have been giving urgent and constant consideration to every possibility.

Everyone knows that ground troops trained and ready for immediate action with the existing United States forces would be of assistance. The