

CANADA AT THE UN: The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Pearson, spoke on the Korean situation at the United Nations Assembly on September 27.

Mr. Pearson declared, according to the UN press report, that during its brief history, the United Nations had existed under a shadow of fear, that the problems arising out of one great war would resolve themselves in a new war. This danger had been brought closer by the warfare in Korea, where men were fighting and dying for the cause of the United Nations.

The Korean war, Mr. Pearson continued, was "but the continuation by armed and open aggression of the policies which communist imperialism has been pursuing by other means." Systematically and methodically, the forces of communist imperialism had been trying out that part of the theory of communism that the disruptions of a postwar period give to a communist minority its best chance to seize power by force. Only one country in which Soviet forces were actually present in the postwar period had been able to throw off the control of the Kremlin, and even that country now felt itself gravely menaced. It remained to be seen, added Mr. Pearson, whether continental China would be brought into the orbit of this "international conspiracy."

REPUBLIC OF KOREA INVADED

In Korea, conditions had seemed admirably suited for communist seizure of the whole country, but the attempt was more open and violent than usual, and it was met with collective United Nations resistance. Despite all propaganda camouflage, the fact that North Koreans invaded the Republic of Korea was clear.

"This was not a coup d'État engineered by a minority as in Czechoslovakia, nor a régime imposed by an occupying force as in Rumania," Mr. Pearson declared. "This was armed invasion."

Such a sudden assault on a peaceful nation had an "obvious meaning" for all peace-loving nations, and hence the speed and determination which many free democracies, Canada included, applied themselves to the task of jointly building up their defences against aggression.

Continuing, Mr. Pearson said that the effect of the North Korean aggression within the United Nations had been to give overwhelming support to the organization in its crisis; it also demonstrated that, with very few exceptions, the members were not able to make that support immediately effective.

"We have, I hope, learned the lesson of this experience," said Mr. Pearson. "We have also learned, however, that the United Nations can act in response to a challenge; that it is no longer remote from reality, a mere international talkshop."

Events were rapidly demonstrating in Korea that aggression did not pay, he said. It would soon be necessary for the United Nations to

show with equal vigour and resourcefulness that it could deal with postwar problems in Korea. As hostilities drew to a close there, and the Assembly took up its new responsibilities, certain specific principles should govern its decisions, and those principles should be embodied at once in an Assembly resolution.

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

First, the general objective of the United Nations should be to fulfil the purposes repeatedly stated at previous assemblies; a united, free Korea governed by the Korean people themselves without outside interference. "This should be achieved by United Nations action and not through decisions reached by certain of its members," Mr. Pearson added.

Second, the United Nations must assist the Korean people to establish peace and order throughout their territory as the firm foundation for democratic institutions and free self-government. This was the time for the aggressors to cease fire, to admit defeat. If they did, it might not be necessary for United Nations forces to advance far beyond their present positions.

"The United Nations, however," he said, "leave its forces free to do whatever is practicable to make certain that the communist aggressors of North Korea are not permitted to re-establish some new base in the peninsula from which they could sally forth again upon a peaceful people."

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NATIONAL NOTES

Lord Elgin, grandson of the man who governed Canada from 1847 to 1854, stayed at the Lord Elgin Hotel in Ottawa this week. He is here as a member of a commission studying revision of the BBC charter.

Mr. Frederick J. Osborn, one of Britain's outstanding town planning experts, is visiting Canada under the auspices of the Community Planning Association of Canada, the Federal District Commission and the National Capital Planning Service, beginning Sunday, October 1.

Carloadings on Canadian railways for the week ended September 23 reached the 90,000 mark for the first time this year. The week's total was 90,307 cars, showing an increase of 4,314 cars over the same week last year.

Mr. G. Herbert Lash, who was Director of Public Information at Ottawa during the war years 1940 to 1942, is to succeed Walter S. Thompson as Director of Public Relations for the Canadian National Railways.