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Mr. Ilesley's Statement: Following is partial text of statement by Right Hon. J.L. Ilesley, member of the Canadian Delegation to the Second Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, made in the First Political Committee, October 23, 1947:-

...."The Canadian Delegation feels that all propaganda from any source which is designed to provoke international ill-feeling is to be deprecated and condemned without reservation. Such propaganda is, of course, especially to be condemned when it is sponsored and directed by governments. It defeats the purposes for which this organization was established. These purposes as stated in article 1 not only bind us to develop friendly relations among nations, but to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character. Any kind of propaganda, I repeat, which deliberately defeats the peaceful purposes and principles of the Charter should be condemned along with the particular kind singled out by the Soviet resolution.

"There is, for instance, the spreading of false and malicious reports by one government, through press and radio, about the people and government of another country. This practice is even more dangerous to peace and international goodwill when the offending government prevents normal social and cultural relations with the people of the country it misrepresents; when it stops the full and free exchange of information; when it puts obstacles in the way of visits by foreigners to its own country and refuses permission for its own citizens to visit other countries.

"We have had some experience of all this in Canada. We have, for instance, been disheartened and discouraged in our sincere wish for friendly relations with the courageous Soviet people, to learn that false and misleading statements have appeared in the U.S.S.R. press and radio about our country; statements designed to stir up ill-feeling and misunderstanding about our people, and which in that sense might be termed war mongering. The official organ of the Soviet government has said that German prisoners of war and the government of Canada (a country which, incidentally, helped to capture these prisoners) form a 'kinship of Nazi souls'.

"The Soviet people, who seem to have only one source of news about Canada are told for instance that my country is using its supplies of wheat to profiteer at the expense of starving Europeans, although Soviet officials must know that Canada, when it has not been giving wheat away as relief has been selling it abroad at one, two or three dollars a bushel below the price charged by certain other countries. They have also been told - though Soviet press representatives and officials in Canada know it is untrue - (we let people travel wherever they wish to go in Canada and find out about things) - that instead of a few hundred soldiers, there are great formations of U.S. troops on our soil; that we have sold ourselves out to the U.S.A. - 'lackeys of Wall Street' is their favourite if unoriginal expression - and that we have allowed large foreign military and air bases to be established on our territory from which the U.S.S.R. is to be attacked. The whole picture is being distorted, to build up enmity toward my country in the mind of the Soviet people. That, Mr. Chairman, is war mongering, though the authors of this resolution obviously did not have it in mind when they presented it to us.

"There is another kind of war mongering not covered by the Soviet resolution, Mr. Chairman; a most insidious and evil kind. It might be called 'civil-war-mongering'. This kind of war mongering sometimes works in the open; more often it works in the dark. Its aim is to stir domestic strife; to set class against class; to turn the people against their freely elected governments; to instil hatreds and fears; in short, to do everything that can be done to stir up unrest which will lead to revolution and civil war. The exploitation by a foreign power, acting directly or through domestic agents, of the hopes and aspirations, the political fears and economic anxieties of peoples of other countries, in the interest of its own selfish national purposes and of its own power politics, is possibly the worst war mongering of all"

(Over)