

that instead of lowering a curtain of our own, we should try to cut windows in the other fellow's.

We are confronted with a particularly delicate problem in the application of this policy to our trade with the People's Republic of China. Canada has had traditional relations of friendliness with the peoples of the great land mass of China and we greatly regret the rift that has developed in the past two years between China and Canada and the other countries of the free world. Since the Korean conflict began, this rift has become deeper and wider because of the aggressive intervention of the Peking government in that conflict and its attitude towards our nationals in China. At this moment our own troops, together with other forces of the United Nations, are fighting Chinese troops who are defying the United Nations and contesting the right of the Koreans to decide for themselves the form of their own government.

It is easy and natural to point to the United Nations casualty lists and, without further consideration, conclude that here at least the policies of partial peace are no longer applicable; that here, at least, we should adjust our thinking to a new and realistic situation and cut off all intercourse with the source of the military power we are now fighting. This quick verdict, however, does not take into account all the implications and long term effects which are involved. Let me dwell for a moment on some of them.

The first point to bear in mind is that we are not in an all-out war with the People's Republic of China; we are engaged in a limited United Nations action to defeat aggression in Korea. If open and total warfare were to break out between China and the Free World, the conflict would be far bloodier even than it is today in Korea. It would, in all likelihood, spread to every corner of the earth and no human being would be safe from its devastation. This is the disastrous outcome we are striving to prevent and it means, I submit, that we must ourselves take no avoidable - I emphasize the word avoidable - step in our relations with the Peking regime which would bring it about. This is not a policy of weakness but of wisdom; nor should it be applied in a weak or "appeasing" way. It is - as I see it - a policy based on a cool and careful calculation of the strength, the purposes and the policies of the people we are up against, and of our own.

The leaders of the People's Republic of China are taking grave risks with all-out war these days but that does not necessarily mean that they wish deliberately to extend the conflict in Korea. They have before them a stupendous task of restoring the economy of their vast country which has been shattered by warfare over many years. It may be that in the future they will come to realize that hostility to the Western World will hold back that restoration, while mutually advantageous trade may become, in time, a basis for a peaceful long-term relationship, the sort of relationship we still wish to have with the Chinese people; the sort of relationship, I am sure, that the Chinese people would wish to have with us if their communist leaders would permit it. We should be careful before we take steps which may finally remove the possibility of any such basis.

It is obvious of course that many of the products that would be useful for the development of China are also