

Nations Charter by taking aggressive military action against the Republic of Korea.

The leader of the Soviet delegation in his one-sided and unconvincing analysis of recent Asian history stated that the Western countries, and the United States in particular, were "incapable of understanding the historic changes that have taken place in the countries of Asia". He added that, instead of trying to understand these changes, we were prepared to find "communist intrigues" and "agents of the Kremlin" everywhere.

Leaving aside the fact that fear of "communist intrigues" and of "agents of the Kremlin" is, for many free states, something that has grown out of hard and unhappy experience, Mr. Molotov is completely wrong in his charge that we do not recognize the significance of what has taken place in Asia in recent years, in the march of the peoples of that great continent to national freedom and greater human welfare. On the contrary, we do understand and fully accept the significance of these developments, and the fact that this march cannot and should not be reversed.

Mr. Molotov also said in his speech, "We cannot conceal our warm sympathy with the movements of the peoples, including the peoples of Asia, for national freedom". We can all echo that expression of sympathy while insisting, at the same time, that this freedom should be more real than that, to mention a few examples, of Lithuania or Bulgaria or the Mongolian People's Republic; or, indeed, of those members of the United Nations who belong to a bloc so tightly controlled that no member in all the years of its existence has ever publicly disagreed with or voted against a proposal of the leader of that bloc.

We, therefore, hope that all the Asian peoples in their forward march will secure for themselves, as India, Pakistan and Ceylon, for instance, have already done, a better kind of national freedom than that which is a mere facade to conceal imperialist and aggressive domination by any power, whether Asian or European.

The right to be free does not include the obligation to be communist; and "Asia for the Asians" is not the same as - indeed is the opposite of - "Asia for the Cominform". It would be no contribution either to Asian peace or prosperity, independence or dignity, if the Japanese East Asian co-prosperity sphere were exchanged for the Chinese East Asian co-communist empire.

In their speeches to this conference the leaders of the delegations of the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China have attacked the United States for a policy of aggressive imperialism in Asia, which, they allege, stands in the way of freedom for the Asian peoples. As the leader of the delegation of a country which is a neighbour of the most powerful state in the world, I can say with a conviction based on our national experience that the people of the United States are neither aggressive nor imperialist; and it is the people of the United States that freely elect their governments.

If, indeed, the United States did not respect the rights and interests of others, Canada would not today be an