

should all cooperate to strengthen and improve the peace-keeping methods of the United Nations, and place them on a sound financial footing, so that the Organization will have a continuing capacity to discharge its first responsibility -- the maintenance of international peace and security. We should also like to see the Security Council become effective as the United Nations organ with the primary responsibility in this field. I hope that our respective representatives in New York may work more effectively together in order to see how these objectives might be reached.

As I observed to your Ambassador in Ottawa when he delivered your message to me, many of the general undertakings concerning renunciation of the use of force envisaged in your letter would appear to be spelled out already in the Charter of the United Nations, which also recognizes the important principle of the right of self-defence by national and collective means. I am glad to see the reaffirmation of Soviet adherence to important international obligations assumed by members of the United Nations and I consider that this exchange of letters may in itself serve to strengthen attachment to peaceful processes in international affairs. It seems to me that even more important than texts of the obligations which nations have assumed is the willingness of their governments to abide by and to adjust their policies to the spirit and the letter of such obligations. I hope that the present correspondence will help to create an atmosphere in which governments will find it easier to act in this way as well as to reach agreement on specific matters.

This brings me to the four-point proposal near the end of your letter concerning an international agreement on the renunciation of force in solving territorial disputes. It would seem to me important, in any serious consideration of the subject, to take into account that subversion, infiltration and clandestine arms supply can be just