

United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan itself. We shall also provide 12 observers for service with the new Observer Group, and in addition, a number of aircraft, a senior staff officer, and air crew for service with both observer groups in the region. In undertaking to meet these requests, the Government of Canada expects that the new Observer Group will, of course, be withdrawn as soon as changing circumstances in the area make this possible.

Furthermore, as I have already indicated, if there are any ways in which Canada can assist in facilitating the initiation, continuation and, as we devoutly hope, completion of negotiations, we stand ready to do whatever we can.

I come now to the situation in Vietnam. This situation has not arisen from any lack of clear international directives for achieving stability. If the cease-fire provisions agreed to in 1954 had been fully observed, the tragedy and danger we now face in that part of the world would not have occurred. But they were not observed.

One of the two basic provisions of the Agreement was non-interference between the two zones, and it has been progressively disregarded. The ensuing instability, and the measures introduced to correct it, have not resulted in any new and more satisfactory balance. Instead, as we all know, the situation has spiralled upwards, imposing untold suffering on the Vietnamese people and creating an increasing threat to the peace of the region and of the world.

There are obvious reasons why up to now the Security Council has been able to act over Kashmir but has been powerless to intervene usefully in Vietnam. Speaking for Canadians, I can say that it is a matter of deep concern that the United Nations has been prevented from effective action in the crisis in Vietnam. This is a test for the General Assembly of the United Nations. We cannot abdicate this responsibility in this grave situation. It is the duty of this Assembly, in our judgement, to express clearly and forcefully the collective conviction of the United Nations that the war in Vietnam must be brought to a negotiated settlement.

There can be no doubt of the right of the people concerned to settle their destiny free of intimidation, subversion and military pressure, called liberation. Surely this is a cardinal principle of any settlement.

I can only trust that as the real issues in the Vietnam war become clearer to everyone, and as the realization of the common interest in ending the war grows, there will emerge a desire for compromise and negotiation. The United States response to the appeal of the unaligned nations last April established, in the view of my Government, the willingness of the United States to negotiate without preconditions for a settlement.

This Assembly of the United Nations must use whatever influence it has to help to bring about a negotiated settlement. Intransigence must yield to the appeals of justice and humanity. A military solution alone is neither practicable nor desirable. Once that is recognized, we can seek a mutual accommodation of interests and objectives and, above all, a guarantee that the people concerned will be able to proceed with the support and encouragement of the international community to choose for themselves the path they wish to follow.