

some real satisfaction for those everlasting hungers for bread, security and freedom to which the communists pretend to cater. Otherwise we shall not secure the support of those in many parts of the world, and particularly in Asia, on whose co-operation we must rely in the days ahead.

Those are the main features, I think, of the adversary with whom we must struggle. Even so short a summary as I have attempted to give of the Soviet system and of the operations of Soviet power, will indicate, I think, the scale and complexity of the challenge. To get the better of such an enemy, active in all parts of the world with propaganda and espionage, relying ultimately upon the brute weight of 170 powerful divisions but making also its crocodile appeal to real needs and honest longings, we will have to show ourselves resourceful and imaginative as well as strong.

This is the perspective in which we must view the war in Korea today, though I do not for a moment suggest that these considerations should lessen our anxiety over those events or block our response to them. In Korea, together with the other countries of the free world, we are now faced with a plain and unmistakable military challenge; and we, in common with all the free world, must answer that challenge. I think it is of some significance that an Asian country was chosen by international communism as the scene of the present attack. There the communists may have thought they would have the best chance to achieve their aggressive purposes with the minimum of interference. Korea is a remote spot on the map, strategically not very important, and furthermore a country which was itself divided. It was possible in Korea, as it has been possible elsewhere, for the war to be fought by satellites, by Asian troops alone. Therefore, when the United Nations intervened, the war could be misrepresented, as it has been misrepresented, as one of Asian popular forces against those of Western imperialist capitalism.

I do not claim, and of course no one claims, that affairs in Korea even since 1945 have been without light and shade. Like all human affairs they have been equivocal; but gradually in the course of these equivocal events a clear issue has emerged, and perhaps as briefly as possible I should go over the record to show how it has emerged.

During the second World War the United States, the United Kingdom and China publicly agreed--at Cairo--that Korea, which had been annexed by Japan in 1910, should be restored at the end of the war as a free and independent state. Later the Soviet union adhered to this declaration, which was reaffirmed several times subsequently. When the war ended it was decided as a matter of military convenience, however--an unfortunate military convenience, as it has turned out--that the United States forces should occupy the southern part of Korea to the 38th parallel, and the Soviet troops should occupy Korea to the north of that parallel. In the early stages of this joint occupation attempts were made by the United States to agree with the Soviet union on a plan for the establishment of a single provisional government for all Korea. However, all those attempts broke down, almost entirely because of the intransigence of the Soviet authorities. Faced with the failure of co-operation, the United States decided to refer the whole question to the United Nations. This was done in September, 1947. In an attempt to create conditions in which an election could be held and a government established, the General Assembly established a United Nations Temporary Commission for Korea in that year,