

We will continue--and I am sure there will be general agreement on this--we will continue to assist in bringing about a Korean peace settlement, consistent with United Nations principles and decisions; but we will not repudiate or betray those principles or decisions.

If the Geneva conference should not at this time achieve such a settlement, we will favour a re-examination of the problem at a future date, whether at the United Nations General Assembly or by a resumption of the present conference called for that purpose.

We will oppose any move by anyone to resume hostilities in Korea.

So far as Indo-China and Southeast Asia are concerned, we recognize that Canada has a very real interest in what is happening there, and what is likely to happen there. As a country with hundreds of miles of exposed coast on the Pacific, Canada is naturally concerned with problems affecting security in the Pacific and in Asia. Moreover, we know from the experience of two world wars that peace is indivisible and that a threat to peace anywhere can soon cover the whole world.

Our inevitable concern for developments in Southeast Asia is increased by our close relationship to the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand and the three Asian members of the Commonwealth. The growing anxiety of these latter three over hostilities going on so near to their homelands can be readily appreciated, since their security would be very seriously threatened if an aggressive communist nation took control, either by internal subversion or by direct military intervention, of one after another of the countries in the area.

Added evidence of our concern for the security and well-being of the nations of South and Southeast Asia is to be found in our active participation in the Colombo Plan, whereby we have sought to associate ourselves with the area's economic development.

In so far as accepting special political and defence commitments is concerned, there is of course a limit to what a country of Canada's population and resources can do. We have limited strength, in both men and materials; and our commitments, Mr. Chairman, are already heavy. Existing undertakings, such as those under NATO, are such as to circumscribe what Canada can and cannot undertake, militarily and otherwise, not only in Southeast Asia but elsewhere.

And therefore, while it is true that if peace is threatened by communist aggression anywhere, it is threatened everywhere, it is also true that Canada cannot be expected to accept special or regional defence commitments in every part of the world where collective arrangements may be advisable. We have of course, through membership in the United Nations, accepted the provisions of the charter. Canada has, therefore, already definite, if general, obligations in the maintenance and restoration of peace and security in all areas where these are in danger. In this connection, it should be realized that the situation in Indo-China, with all its consequences to the peace and security of Southeast Asia, has not yet been