

There are others who feel that we should, at once, mobilize all our strength for war and begin moving all our forces to the Pacific area. That, in my opinion, would be a very unwise thing to do in the present situation. Indeed, it is one that might give some satisfaction to those who would like to trouble the waters elsewhere so that they could fish in them.

The Korean war may be a full tragedy itself; or it may be only the first act of a longer and far greater tragedy. Therefore, while we should be resolute in facing it, we should also be cool and far-sighted. At the moment, three modern Canadian war ships are on their way to become part of United Nations naval forces off Korea. We have been assured that they will provide effective assistance and they will soon be on the spot for that purpose, flying the flag of the United Nations alongside the flag of Canada. This is no mere token assistance. Nor is it assistance to any one State. It is a contribution to the United Nations for the restoration of peace in Korea. Our participation in this operation is for that purpose alone. But it is a high purpose. In this present contribution to its fulfillment, our sailors will find themselves under the operational leadership of a great American, General MacArthur, whose men, the men of the United States, are now bearing the burden and the heat of the conflict, with the courage and determination which one would expect of them. When we think of the trials that they are now so heroically enduring, and the odds which - as forces accumulate - they are at the moment facing, a Canadian mind goes back to the desperate hours of Ypres in 1915; as an Australian would go back to Gallipoli and an Englishman to 1940.

During the last few days, through the Canadian Representative in Tokyo, Mr. E.H. Norman, we have been in touch with General MacArthur regarding Canadian naval assistance. General MacArthur is no stranger to us in Canada. His magnificent record in the Pacific area during and since the Second World War is a matter of common knowledge and universal admiration, but his common service with Canadians in time of war dates back even further to the First World War. The General warmly welcomed this Canadian addition to United Nations forces under his command, and spoke in appreciative terms of the prompt and practical expression of assistance which Canada had made. I do not need to say how genuinely we reciprocate General MacArthur's feelings at this time, nor with what confidence we look forward to his conduct of the United Nations operation to restore peace and security in Korea.

What of the future? He would indeed be rash who tried to predict it. A fire is raging and we don't know where the wind will blow it. But we know that we have reached the testing time - that we are facing trial by ordeal in the struggle between democratic freedom and Communist imperialism that has been going on for many years. We have learned - or if we have not, we have been blind to all reality - that in this struggle against such ruthless forces, there is no safety in appeasement, as there is no sense in provocation. A steady and determined front against aggression, or threats of aggression, and the means to make that steadiness and determination effective, are what is required. This means rejecting alluring advice to isolate ourselves behind our boundaries and hope for the best; repelling the panicky counsels of impatient and bellicose men; welcoming any genuine move that may seem to promise peace but spurning phony overtures and appeals which conceal a bitter desire to weaken us so we can be destroyed.

May I close by a quotation which is not, possibly, inappropriate in the circumstances. Some years ago, a man who has left his imprint, his deep and dreadful imprint, on the world's history said:

"The Russian bear is certainly capable of anything - as long as he knows the other animals he has to deal with are capable of nothing."

Who said that? Some Red-baiter? No. Karl Marx.