



COLLIER'S STRONGLY SUPPORTS Governor Thomas E. Dewey in his call for a vast world army of men from all free countries, under the flag and leadership of the United Nations. We made the same appeal on this page four weeks ago, and we think the matter is important enough to be urged again.

It is time that the other U.N. governments realized that there is a limit to America's ability to foot the free world's bills and fight the free world's battles. That statement is not inspired by any sympathy toward isolationism. It is inspired by a disappointment in the non-Communist governments' leisurely and tentative response to U.N. Secretary General Trygve Lie's request for aid in Korea. It is inspired by a resentment of the American lives lost in a war that concerns every non-Communist member of the United Nations as much as it concerns the United States.

We do not mean to minimize the sea and air forces that two or three countries sent at the beginning of the Korean war. But the sea and air were not where help was most urgently needed. The need was for foot soldiers in the first bitter weeks when American forces were so vastly outnumbered, outrained and outgunned. The need

It is true that Hong Kong is a potential trouble spot, and that France is fighting a guerrilla war with the Communists in Indo-China. But the fact remains that when the crisis came, this country's 50-odd non-Communist associates in the United Nations were unready or unwilling to send even a token force of ground troops into battle. The fact remains that it was the Americans alone who had to help the South Koreans defend their country and their freedom. It was for foot soldiers, not in a few months or weeks, but then.

For two months the American and South Korean ground forces fought it out alone. For two months they fought without even the promise of

A Vast U.N. Army

help from the other major powers. The smaller nations like Australia, Thailand, Canada and the Philippines, who were the first to volunteer assistance, perhaps should not be blamed for not having combat troops in readiness. But Great Britain had some 30,000 trained soldiers in Hong Kong when the Korean fighting broke out, and France had about 150,000 metropolitan and colonial troops under arms in Indo-China. Yet it was late August before Britain even offered to send 1,500 men to Korea and France promised a volunteer force of 1,200.

the Americans alone who had to die for a cause to which the whole free membership of the United Nations was equally committed.

It may be too late now to hope for effective outside assistance in Korea. But who will be so rash as to say that Korea is the beginning and the end? There may well be other "incidents." But there must not be another Korea. With partial mobilization already under way in several countries, this is the time to start organizing the vast world army that Governor Dewey spoke of, an army prepared and alert to act in the event of further "incidents" and stop them quickly.

So long as the formation of such an army is delayed, the Soviet government will find it easier to carry out some of its evident intentions. The intentions are these: to brand the United States as an aggressor and try to turn the masses of Asiatic people against us; to bleed our economy by forcing us to divert more and more of our wealth and effort to armaments; to expend its satellites' man power while it keeps its own millions of men-at-arms safely at home.

Russia has spent only military equipment in Korea. America has spent equipment and lives, not to protect its own territory, not to gain any material prize, but to fight the U.N.'s war. This cannot continue through crisis after crisis.

The United States is the bulwark of all free nations in the struggle against Soviet imperialism. It will not remain a bulwark forever if it is called upon to stand alone. As a matter of self-interest, if for no more noble consideration, the rest of the free world should realize this.

It has been said that the League of Nations expired because it had degenerated into a debating society, paralyzed by talk. There is danger that its successor might suffer the same fate unless the U.N. governments quickly realize that they must condemn Soviet aggression not only in indignant words but in action—action by a world army whose physical power and moral force could even make the men in the Kremlin revise their blueprint for world conquest.