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Editorial Notes

This Quarter we are faced with an emergency due to an attack on our North Western Frontier similar to that on our North Eastern Frontier in 1962. But more dangerous, dastardly and serious than the last one as it is an attack by a quarrelsome brotherly neighbour with whom we hoped to live in peace by letting them have a portion of our land renamed Pakistan set apart for them to live in as they pleased unaffected by our mode of living. The attack is made (in cooperation with those who attacked us before) with arms and ammunition of the most modern type supplied to them by a Friendly Nation for use against the very forces with which they have sinisterly combined. Its effect has been to turn our minds in suspicion against those who have supplied the arms. We must however be careful not to treat as enemies those who have been our friends and desire to remain our friends, and have supplied those arms with best of intentions. It is apparent now that it was a mistake on our part to permit the people of the part of our territory partitioned off to have a separate armed force and foreign policy with which to acquire arms from other countries. It would have been better if they had been allotted only an autonomous state under the Central Government and this is what will have to be done if they continue to misuse the arms they have been permitted · to receive.

The professed purpose of the attack was apparently to take over Kashmir because it has a Majority of Moslems also shows that the basis of the partition was wrong; and that it would be a danger to the world if the rulers of Pakistan were conceded the right to claim sovereignty over any area anywhere merely because the majority of the people of that area follow the same religion as is followed by the majority in their own

area. If Pakistan be allowed the strength to profess this principle and extend it to other countries, then let people of the same religion in the middle east and far east beware of their own sovereignty. If religion is made the basis of sovereignty over territory then until conflicts of various religions cease, there will be no peace in the world. We cannot ask our Government to accept professed religion alone as a basis for a grant of armed forces and Sovereignty over territory; and we would offer all assistance to resist it.

It is fortunate that our Military engineers and Airforce pilots, engineers and designers have proved successful and superior against the initial ouslaughts. It is hoped that this will be a future lesson to all who had been in the habit of running down Indian abilities and everything Indian. The bravery of our Jawans has given us an uplift in morale and filled us with pride in our people. Let us hope that we shall successfully cope with all future attacks.

It is important to note that one of our ports in the western coast was subjected to Naval attack while the major part of our Naval defence forces were engaged (or was it "decoyed"? away) in a joint function with a Naval power, supposed to be friendly, in the eastern coast. This points to the need to enhance our Naval defence forces to be effective in both coasts simultaneously. Our shipbuilding programme must be increased.

Also the inland waters in the North west and North east Ffontiers must be provided with Naval craft suitable for effective defence. There is no need to look for foreign aid and technical corporation for this purpose. As our Indian Aircraft designers have proved their ability! to design superior craft so will Indian Naval Architects of whom we have fortunatedly plenty at the moment and sound provision for enough in future.

With this issue we publish an up-to-date list of Members. The Association is now completing 46 years of existence and will celebrate her Golden Jubilee in 1969. It is an achievement that we have been able to pursue our aims and objects so long without Government Aid or patronage in spite of sinister attempts by some interested persons to kill this organisation, by opposing government recognition. It is the good will and selfless service of our members who seek no personal gain or profit that has preserved our existence so long and will, we are certain, continue to do so in future.