

War ideology. But there has not been a structure of security co-operation, of traditional military Alliances, of regional political institutions to mirror the European experience. I suggest it is time to consider security or political institutions in the Pacific.

The Cold War is over in Europe. It is not yet clear, however, if the Cold War is over in Asia. Equally, ideology is diminishing as a source of contention between East and West. However, in a variety of situations in Asia and the Pacific region, ideologies survive and thrive, threatening regional and indeed global security.

The fact that the Cold War is over in Europe is a reason to intensify the search for peace in the Pacific. I believe there are three reasons for this. First, if the new Soviet foreign policy has now led to real peace in Europe, we must press forward to see if it also means peace for the Pacific. It is not at all clear if Mr. Gorbachev's sincerity in dealing with the West finds a parallel in his dealings with the East. But we must test that sincerity, probe his intentions, match proposal with counterproposal. It is possible, of course, that we will be disappointed. But disappointment without having tried is indefensible.

Second, the relaxation of Cold War tensions does not necessarily mean an end to regional conflict. Superpower confrontation has been a factor feeding tension and conflict throughout the world. And this region has suffered more than its share of tragic consequences. But superpower confrontation has also acted to limit conflict in some cases, to deter and to constrain. In the absence of such limits, states are able to exercise a new freedom, but that can be a freedom to open new disputes as well as a freedom to co-operate.

There is a long list of regional disputes and conflicts in Asia:

- the guerilla warfare which still grips the Philippines;
- the Iron Curtain which still exists between North and South Korea;
- the dangerous conflict over Kashmir;
- the Sino-Soviet confrontation;
- the tragedies which persist in Cambodia and Afghanistan;
- the unrest in Myanmar and Sri Lanka;
- the tension between Vietnam and China;
- and the unresolved territorial dispute between Japan and the Soviet Union.