

us they want the "Kennedy round" to succeed and so contribute toward the liberalization of trade on a world-wide basis.

I am glad, as I am sure the whole House will be, that we shall have an opportunity to welcome Chancellor Erhard and Mr. Schroeder here when they visit us from June 9 to June 11. Apart from the United States and Britain, Canada will be the first country outside the European Common Market that Dr. Erhard will have visited since he became Chancellor. He has been here before and we look forward to seeing him again. Both the economic regeneration and the political transformation of modern democratic Germany owe much to the Chancellor.

When I went to Berlin, I saw a different kind of evidence that Germany is not what it was when I last visited that country in 1936. As many of you who have been there know, there is not a single landmark left. The whole aspects of the Berlin I had known. Much has been rebuilt, and there are impressive new industrial and urban developments. But as one gets to the frontier of freedom, where East and West Berlin meet, there are gaping reminders of Hitler's war. Through this area, formerly the heart of the city, runs a wall, that stark, horrible monument to the failure of a system. For, if the Communist system in the Eastern zone had not failed so lamentably, why would from 3,000 to 5,000 persons a week have tried, at the risk of their lives, to escape westward to freedom? From the boundary of West Berlin it is like looking in at the outside of a great concentration camp. There are armed guards, machine guns, lookout towers, row upon row of barbed wire, tank traps, houses demolished or their boundary windows bricked up, railways and subways blocked and guarded as if the life of that regime in the East depended upon stopping people at the cost of their lives from escaping to bear witness to conditions under Communism.

The German problem is the centre of the European problem and certainly also of the relations of the West with Communist countries. The solution of the German problem could open up a real understanding between East and West. It is important for a country like Canada to understand this problem, to understand the position of some of our NATO partners, to analyse our attitude and our assessment of the reactions of the Soviet Union to any proposed solution.

Search for Controlled Disarmament

I have dwelt principally on the relations between the West and the Communist countries and within the Western community itself. Both these preoccupations converge in the disarmament discussions being conducted in the Eighteen-Nation Committee in Geneva. It is there that the four NATO nations, Britain, Canada, Italy and the United States, are in a sense, acting for the alliance partners in the continuing search for controlled disarmament and, in the meantime for any measures to ease international tension and avert the possibility of war by miscalculation or surprise attack. It is there, too, that both the Communists and the non-Communists feel the full weight and influence of the non-aligned nations as represented by eight of their number from all the continents.