

"It is also, I think, true that in view of the relative stability which has now been reached in the positions on either side in the West ... the Soviet leaders are turning to the Middle East, and to South and Southeast Asia where they hope to extend their influence and diminish western influence and prestige. We know, of course, how they are trying to do this; by promoting discord in the area, (this is particularly shown in their Middle East policy) and by offers of assistance of one kind or another in Southeast Asia and Africa."

After referring to Mr. Khrushchev's speech at the recent party congress as being possibly "as important a blueprint as Hitler's Mein Kampf was for Nazi policy" Mr. Pearson drew from it a number of conclusions:

"First, the Soviet leaders are full of confidence. They believe in the correctness and the ultimate success of their policies and of the success of their new tactics;

"Secondly, the principle of which they call collective leadership...is now pretty firmly established, at least for the time being..... in that group, and they seem to get on very well together. Mr. Khrushchev would appear ... to be the dominant factor. He certainly at the moment, does not give any indication of trying to set himself up as the successor of Stalin; but I would not myself wager more than even money that ultimately out of all this may come another single Russian ruler. It is in the tradition of Russian history, and the tradition of Communist ideology, to have a single ruler. ...;

"Third, the former Russian dictator, Stalin, has been discredited for his policies and for his doctrine, and discredited by those very men who probably owe their survival today to slavish unquestioning obedience to him when he was alive. ... Not Stalin, but Lenin remains as the sole interpreter of Marxism. Yet, the present leaders of Soviet Russia are confident enough of themselves and of their power to be prepared to modify even some Leninistic precepts in the light of current conditions. ... I think that represents a good deal of confidence in their doctrinal as well as their political position;

"Fourth, the congress showed that there had been some mellowing of the regime, and the dictates of the regime in both internal and external policy. The internal discontent of the Communist intelligentsia, ... may be one of the reasons for this.