

explosive areas of the world. That is a pressing danger to peace, the evidence of which is before us every day. Thousands of people from the Baltic communities have had to be expelled from their homes; a Marshal of the U.S.S.R. has become the Polish Defence Minister; the leader of the Hungarian Church has had to be imprisoned; a communist Foreign Minister of Hungary has been hanged for treason; the government of Czechoslovakia has been catapulted into a persecution of its middle classes. The communist governments of Roumania and Bulgaria have been engulfed in internal dissension and the people of Albania have been involved in an economic crisis which daily threatens their existence. And to complete the picture, the people of Yugoslavia have now had to stake their very lives on an effort, single-handed, to free themselves from the yoke of Soviet domination.

Mr. President, this is a frightening state of affairs. It is therefore my sincere and earnest hope that, as a contribution to the peace of the world, the government of the U.S.S.R. will abandon this aggressive intervention in the affairs of other countries. Peoples are gaining their freedom in other parts of the world by a process of adjustment and negotiation. If the Soviet Union will relax its tight grip over the people on its borders, so that they too may work out freely their relations with their great neighbours we shall all breathe more easily. We do not wish a third time to see the world engulfed in war because of trouble in the Balkans or in the Russian border-lands.

There are still other practical measures by which we might remove the fear of war. I am not sure from his many statements whether or not Mr. Vishinsky really believes that it is possible to organize peace. Again and again he told us that he was convinced that the rest of the world was determined to make war upon the Soviet Union. If he believes that the fifty-four states which refused to vote for his resolution are planning an attack on his country, I do not suppose that anything we can say or do can put his mind to rest. In spite of everything he has said about disarmament, he does not even think that disarmament would bring him much comfort. On one occasion for example, he made the following assertion about Iceland, which he regards as a danger to the Soviet Union even though it is totally disarmed. He said: "As if it were necessary to have an army to be a warmonger, as if it were necessary to have naval and air forces to be a warmonger. If one went along on that basis, one could conclude that whoever has the greatest army is a warmonger, whoever has the greatest navy is a greater warmonger, and whoever has the greatest air force is the greatest warmonger. Then we could just pick and choose." Mr. Vishinsky seems by this to think that military preparations bear no relation to the evil intentions that he fears. From this one can only conclude that he considers himself in danger no matter what happens.

If Mr. Vishinsky were always as discouraging as this, there would be no point in our continuing the debate, and it would be better for us to pack up and go home. On other occasions, however, he has taken a quite different line, and seemed to indicate that it was possible for the Soviet position to be flexible and even conciliatory. At one point in our debate for example, he said the following: "I remember that at one meeting of the Committee, the representative of Uruguay reported that in a dispute between Bolivia and Peru, 65 proposals were submitted, that the 66th proposal was finally adopted and that it removed the conflict between those two Latin American countries. If this is so, why cannot we strive, why cannot we now face all divergencies of opinion, keep looking for the true road toward co-operation and the resolution of differences? Why cannot we keep hoping that we shall find the solution eventually -- if we are really permeated with the desire to find it, which is the main point?" On still another occasion Mr. Kiselev asserted that Marx and Lenin believed in "the possibility of good neighbourly or friendly relations between the Soviet Union and capitalist countries in general, and the United States and the United Kingdom in particular". He supported this argument by quoting Stalin to this effect: "We stand for peace and for the strengthening of business and commercial relations with all countries."