

We may be facing new tests in this regard - both nationally and internationally - as words are uttered and gestures are made which promise an easing of tension in quarters from which we have been accustomed to experience only implacable hostility and relentless attack. In considering these moves, it will be tempting, but very unwise, to become the deluded victims of our own deep longing for peace and accept uncritically any and every comforting statement as something which warrants a slackening in our own free-world policy of security through growing collective strength and unity.

But it would be equally foolish to dismiss as not worthy even of serious examination any new possibility for a relaxation of tension. I suggest that we should always go half way - and even further if necessary - in meeting any overture; but that we should keep our eyes and ears wide open as we move and not allow our response to interfere with the steps we have already taken to ensure that we can move - in any other direction - firmly and confidently if things go wrong. We should give a joyous welcome to any genuine harbinger of peace, but we must be sure it is that, before we begin rejoicing. A hawk is no less an aggressive bird because its wings have been made to look like those of a dove.

The strength of the free world is now becoming a great buttress of peace by removing the temptation from a potential aggressor of quick and easy victory. As important, however, as our strength is our unity. There are those who would destroy that unity - by fair means or by foul. So we should remain on guard as we examine, as we should examine, and in a fair and honest way, every proposal, every suggestion, every indication that some of the problems which divide the two worlds might now be solved.

In the success of this effort to preserve peace through international action no group has a greater stake than that which will have to bear the main immediate burden of its failure; the men of our colleges.

During the time I spent in New York, I met and spoke with a large number of students and young people from Canada and other parts of the world. In October and November there were visits from international relations clubs from Toronto and Queen's, and from the University of Montreal, and, in this part of the session, from student representatives of the newly-formed Canadian Association of Students for the United Nations. Only last week at United Nations Headquarters, I met with a group of students of high school age from thirty-five different countries: from Canada and Burma, from Germany and Israel, from Siam and Pakistan.

In the eyes of these young people who come from near and far to see for themselves this experiment in world organization, there is an unmistakable idealism. They are not interested in causes or parties or movements which merely promise to bring the branches down within their reach, indeed they not only believe, they insist, that "a man's reach should exceed his grasp". They have also, I think, a deep faith in mankind's ability to surmount great obstacles. But there is something else that I, for one, have found; an almost disconcerting directness in their questions, an impatience with diplomatic double-talk, an abhorrence of