

rate of material progress continue faster and faster?; will it level off -- or will it end in the catastrophe of a war that will annihilate civilization as we know it, ending in a return to the Dark Ages?";

These are the fundamental questions today, and certainly there is no pat answer.

Under all the circumstances, our national course has been, and indeed continues to be, to promote international peace by every available means, but at the same time to recognize that it is only prudent to keep our guard up. It is the leaders of governments and statesmen who must take the responsibility for promoting peace, for discovering new and sure ways by which man can learn to live at peace with his neighbour, but it is the scientists and engineers who are entrusted with providing protection to ensure survival meanwhile.

So, until peace is declared, and can be accepted with confidence on all sides, it would seem that we must continue to press on with technological advances at as rapid a rate as we can afford, and in a direction which is calculated to defeat foreseeable threats.

These are my major points -- that the rate of advance must continue to be rapid, and that the direction of our effort -- in other words, our research and engineering programs -- must be sufficiently flexible to prepare for defence against a variety of threats. I refer particularly to threats from manned bombers, from ICBM's, and from submarine-launched missiles.

We are becoming more aware every day of Russia's intense drive and concentration on scientific achievement. From early school age to graduate level, science is encouraged by real incentives. Bright students by applying themselves to their academic training are rewarded with a higher standard of living than their fellows; teachers are held in high respect and paid very well; first class buildings and equipment are provided on a lavish scale; it is in fact quite clear that an aristocracy of privileged people, largely made up of scientists and engineers, is emerging.

One writer has summed it up by saying that "Russia's national preoccupation is in solving scientific and intellectual problems and indeed to wrest technological superiority away from the West". Another goes even further. He says -

"It is not only our military, scientific and technological capabilities that Russia has challenged. In a more subtle and profound way it is challenging our system of government. Can Democracy ensure survival?".