

single experiment, not to perfect a single device which is not needed for the peaceful uses of atomic energy. In my opinion, the exercise of such wisdom and restraint reflects a true understanding of the interests of the Indian people no less than those of the world community at large. It also represents a real contribution to the maintenance of world peace.

Let me say this in conclusion: we are all concerned, in different ways, with the implications of a changing world. A changing world tends to be an uncomfortable world, one which confronts us with new perspectives and new problems. What is of major significance, however, is not so much the fact of change, which is part of the scheme of things, as its direction. And some of the important directions of world change over the last decade or two have surely, on balance, been beneficial. We have come to recognize the overriding importance to all nations of enlarging the area of peace and security. We have also come to recognize the importance of achieving a more equitable distribution of the benefits of material prosperity in the world. Above all, we have come to recognize that the interests of any single nation can no longer be artificially divorced from the interests of the world community at large. And we have acted on that recognition by co-operating over a very wide area in the framework of international organizations and institutions. These are solid achievements, and I am confident that they provide a sound basis on which to build for the future.

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