

The Russian cry of "encirclement" is, if possible, more grimly ludicrous than the same Germany cry in the Nineteen Thirties. We should frankly face the fact that the United States is today the chief rival of Russia, which is first trying to reduce the British Empire to an ineffectual second or third rate power before directly attacking this country's vital interests.

Russia is, of course, pursuing the old policy of "divide and conquer," and it is distressing that Americans who should know better are unconsciously giving aid and comfort to that policy.

Mediation Unprofitable

An American policy of "mediation" between Russia and Britain, based on the sacrifice of vital British interests in the hope that such sacrifices will gain us the loving regard of Russia, will not insure a law-abiding world in which the individual man and woman may achieve an increasing measure of justice and liberty. Selling out the British Commonwealth and its empire in the guise of "mediation," or any other pompous self-deception, is not compatible with the honor and the security of the United States.

Whatever their imperfections may be, the American and British Empires together are the greatest force for the protection of human liberty and man's gradual progress toward a better world. Together we would neither threaten nor need to fear any other nation. Let's stand together and make no bones about it.

There will be world conferences, and many of them will fail. There will be all kinds of international formulas, and they will fade away. There will be glittering slogans, and they will be forgotten.

But if the American and the British peoples have faith in each other's purposes, hope in each other's future, and charity toward each other's shortcomings, then, as friends, as partners and as allies, they can go forward together into the future, as far as the human eye can see, in dignity, in freedom and in peace.

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