

Three years of work on a treaty designed to outlaw the testing of nuclear weapons has produced no agreement because the Soviet Union refuses to accept an effective system of inspection.

Khrushchov for the last year has been trying to destroy the United Nations, having found that he could not control it. Disarmament negotiations are stalled as negotiation by the Soviets has come to mean negation, delay and ultimate frustration of the hopes for peace of mankind.

The defensive operations of free nations in NATO, SEATO and CENTO are violently opposed.

In the last few weeks Khrushchov has become more threatening and the free world today faces its most grave and perilous crisis since 1945. He has stated that, in the absence of agreement with the West, the U.S.S.R. will sign a separate treaty with East Germany before the end of the year and will turn over regional control over Western access routes to Berlin to East Germany.

The declared policy of the U.S.S.R. for West Berlin would make its people puppets subject to control by Communist pressure and acceptance would be a mortal blow to the West.

Time of Testing

This is a time for faith, courage and calm determination. Khrushchov must not be permitted to under-estimate the determination of the West to preserve the freedom of the people of West Berlin, or to lull himself into the belief that the West is divided, decadent, and lacking in common purpose and dedication. He must be made aware that he will not be allowed to devour one of freedom's outposts.

The Western alliance will have to avoid the pitfalls of weakness or unreasonable rigidity, and must maintain calm judgment so that no avenues that might contribute to peace will be overlooked. The West must seek for agreement, but without appeasement or sacrifice of the pledged word. It must be tenacious in opposition to Soviet use of force or unilateral interferences by the Soviet of allied rights but flexible enough to meet changing conditions without sacrificing principles. The gravity of the situation has been revealed by President Kennedy, Prime Minister Macmillan as recently as Saturday, and by the British Foreign Secretary, Lord Home, a few days ago, when he used these words:

"These next six months are going to be one of the most difficult and dangerous periods through which this country has passed since the last war".

The mounting tension is reminiscent of 1914 and 1939, with one difference: The knowledge of the awfulness of nuclear war must exert a restraining influence on the Kremlin.