

narrow nationalism and disillusionment with democracy, and ultimately into dangerous militarism, than a rejection by the parliaments of the West of the plans worked out by the democratic government of Germany and other western democracies for the integration of that people into the West European and North Atlantic communities, where they can play a proper and worthy role.

It is also a gross distortion to represent the London and Paris agreements as an aggressive move which threatens the people of Russia. It is too late in the day to be surprised by the falsity and hypocrisy of Soviet propaganda in this matter, but I am still sometimes astonished by the continuing gullibility of some who are taken in by it.

So let us not forget, and let us keep on emphasizing, that the defence policies of the west in EDC or in NATO or in these Paris agreements are not the cause but the result of the aggressive policies of Russian imperialism, and of the huge communist armies backing those policies; of aggressions in Berlin, Czechoslovakia and Korea. It was all this, with the fear that followed it, that forced the world reluctantly to regather some of the strength it had thrown away in 1945, while Russia remained under arms on land, on sea and in the air.

It is also worth recalling in particular that the Russians began the rearmament of Germans in the Eastern Zone as long ago as 1948, when there was not a soldier in the Federal German Republic. The communists have made a transparent effort to disguise this by calling the armed forces in East Germany, which they had organized, barrack police. Quite apart from some 80,000 frontier and civil police, there are almost 100,000 more of these barrack policemen organized into army corps and divisions, and into air force and naval formations on Soviet lines. The East German army units have some 600 tanks, 250 self-propelled guns and 1,700 other pieces of artillery. Any ex-Nazi who wishes to sell himself to communism is welcomed into these forces and into their leadership. Their strength would be even greater if the communist masters felt that they could count on the reliability of more of their German subjects, if they were given arms.

For many years the Russians have also been organizing military forces in other European nations, including those who were our fascist enemies in the last world war and are supposed now to be disarmed by treaty. There are, for example, about a quarter of a million Bulgarian troops, over 225,000 Hungarian troops and some 350,000 in the Roumanian forces. There are in all, 75 satellite divisions, some of them armoured, and over 2,500 planes. All are under complete Russian control, and in Poland that control has been carried to the point where the Defence Minister in that country is a Soviet marshal. But far more important even than these are some 500,000 Soviet