

short period, of a few hundred such weapons anywhere in the world might well so contaminate the atmosphere as to threaten grave and lingering illness to many millions of its people. The use of a few thousand might threaten the existence of all human life.

Yet within a few years several countries may well have the power to deliver such explosives by intercontinental ballistic missiles travelling at thousands of miles per hour.

Faced with these facts, to debate such a question as whether co-existence is desirable or not, seems an idle occupation. There may be only one answer, either co-existence or no existence.

These dread and chilling facts of hydrogen warfare are grounds, not for panic, but for ensuring that we do everything that we possibly can do to convert a co-existence which we cannot escape into a co-operation which will be more than a propaganda slogan and something better than the co-operation between Jonah and the whale.

Since the beginning of history, each individual man and woman has had the capacity for suicide. As individuals, we have learned to live with this capacity; almost to ignore it. We have now reached that stage in history when what has always been true on the individual and spiritual level has become true also on a world-wide social and political plane.

To survive, we must accept and put into practice, the organizational or political implications of these facts. The first step in doing so is clearly to realize the dimensions of the situation, and then to act on that realization through policies which will often have to be supra-national in inspiration and result.

This means the application -- on a far wider front -- of that concept of neighborliness and co-operation which characterizes the relations between the United States and Canada. Some progress has been made. The development of collective security, on the one hand, and of technical assistance and economic aid to the underdeveloped countries on the other, show that we have already begun to move in the right direction.

We will, however, have to go further; and this is more difficult. We must be ready to negotiate solutions for international problems even with those we have cause to fear and whose good faith we have reason to suspect.

We should not, in my view, refuse any offer to negotiate any difference with anybody; unless that offer is obviously insincere, or designed merely to delay and frustrate policies on which we have embarked and which we are convinced are right.