

a plot to smuggle spies into his country. He spurned the United Nations Disarmament machinery and refused to discuss the German problem. In short, within four months after a solemn "summit meeting" the Soviets reneged on all three of their commitments.

The past should not be a deterrent to trying again in the hope that Soviet Russia will come to her senses and be true to her word.

In all these talks about negotiations at the summit, there is always in the mind of thinking people the thought that the dangers of a world war are constantly with us, although the prevailing inclination is not to think about it at all—in the hope, perhaps, that by putting it out of mind it will somehow be put out of the realm of possibility, but a potent and serious matter of this importance does not disappear simply by ignoring it or by wishful thinking.

Will there be a third world war within the next five, ten or thirty years? Naturally, like every sane person, I desperately hope and pray that the catastrophe will not happen—so much so that the deep wish that it may not happen makes me really believe that it will not. But the more one thinks this, the more important it becomes boldly to face the facts, for it is only in the knowledge of these facts that we can take the right steps to avert the dangers of the future and to save the world from what is unthinkable but unfortunately not by any means impossible.

What are the facts?

The Soviet, despite internal changes in the régimes and an internal easing up of the police state, has given no sign whatever over the years of taking one clear step forward to find a peaceful *modus vivendi*—mode of living—with the free world. One can dismiss as insignificant, except for propaganda purposes, the slight raising of the curtain for cultural, sporting, trade relations. We love the Russian people, we love their songs, we love their laws, we love their country, but we do not like their Government, we do not like what communism is trying to do. We were glad indeed to have a visit from the young Russian hockey players who toured this country last winter. We saw them as our sons, we saw them as our friends, because we can have no quarrel with the Russian people themselves, no quarrel with their country. It is the communism of that country that we all abhor. What the Russians are doing along this line simply means that Moscow has become wise to the stupidity of an absolutely immovable curtain.

On the contrary, Russia's policy has continuously sought the means to keep its relations with the West prickly and potentially dangerous. You only have to study the history

of the last ten years to know how true this is. Without going back over the past it is sufficient today to point to perhaps the most dangerous adventure of them all, the present Soviet-made trouble in the Middle East. Why should the Soviet have steadily increased its anti-Semitism, an outlook clearly contrary to its propaganda pretention of liberalism and one that links the Soviet with hated Hitlerism? There can be only one reason: the desire to court the Arab world, whose one real interest is to destroy the young nation Israel. Not that the Soviet has the slightest love for the ultra-nationalistic and feudal Arab. But it knows that the oil wealth of the Middle East is strategically and commercially vital to the West; that the West has had to link itself commercially with the Arabs, while at the same time seeking to maintain good relations with Israel and defend it; that any military action in the Middle East in defence of Western interests is fraught with the gravest political and military danger for the peace of the world.

How simplified that situation would become, if tomorrow Soviet Russia would decide to honestly co-operate with the West for the solution of Mid-Eastern problems like the refugee question and the official recognition of the State of Israel. Such a change of policy and attitude on the part of the Soviet would be a great step toward solution of the serious problems which have to be faced and solved; and what a great factor it would be in appeasement and the relief of tensions which carry in their existence grave dangers to the maintenance of peace in the world!

Unerringly, therefore, Moscow has seized on the sorest spot in the Western position and deliberately set out to pick at that sore and steadily aggravate it, trying in no way to help heal it.

From her own point of view, as regards security, one may find a single excuse to account for this policy, namely, the Soviet's long-term fear of communist China. Moscow may reasonably feel that she must strengthen her resources and gain prestige in order to hold her own against an emerging China with a much vaster population and immense resources on the point of being intensively exploited. Yet, Russia is so far ahead of China in technique and armaments that it is hard to see why she should risk major trouble with the West simply to defend herself against a danger which still remains far in the future. If, indeed, she is worried about China, this could be only a very secondary consideration in her Middle-East policy. It is a well known fact that China has some territorial accounts to settle with Russia and she will never rest satisfied until such time as these problems have been