

see in such co-operation the strongest barrier to the attainment of their own imperialist and reactionary power objectives. This collapse is, I am convinced, only temporary; but temporary is too long! It must be a primary obligation on all of us to speed and make effective the work of repair and restoration. Indeed, we must do more than this. We must strengthen and deepen the foundation for such co-operation, so that a collapse will not take place again in the face of the pull between the requirements of national and international policy. At the moment that is the primary task and responsibility of all who believe in freedom and security.

In the Far East no such collapse of co-operation has taken place, but here also for years there have been strains and stresses on the unity of the coalition, arising out of divergencies of views and policies, especially in regard to Red China. These divergencies, which still exist, bear within them the possibility of serious trouble between friends; something we may tend to forget as the position in that part of the world seems at the moment to have achieved a measure of reassuring if uneasy stability.

The earlier communist attitude of menace and tension, especially in the area of the coastal islands of Quemoy and Matsu, has been less aggressive lately. The Peking authorities have also for some months modified their threats of invasion of Formosa and stepped up their attempts to persuade the Chinese Nationalists on this island to come to a peaceful settlement with the mainland authorities. In Indochina and in Korea, hostilities have virtually been brought to an end and situations which seemed full of dangers to peace have, apparently, eased somewhat.

Recent and unhappy experiences, however, in the Middle East show how quickly a situation can change, and a serious conflict of policy between friends developed. This makes it all the more important to look at the Far East; to examine any differences of policy there; to see why, if they exist, they have not caused an open split in the alliance, and what can be done to avoid this. In the effort to secure and strengthen co-operation between free states, continents and oceans are merely sectors of the same front.

The first task, that of examination of differences is closely related to the second conclusion I have drawn from our Far Eastern policies, namely, the difficulty in reconciling the ideological and the strategic.

Professor Louis Halle, in a recent article in the Yale Review, on this subject, one which I thought to be wise and penetrating, had this to say: