

warning to the developed countries that Third World patience is wearing thin.

Institutionally, perhaps the main points of interest emerging from Colombo are the establishment of a news agency pool, the enlargement of the co-ordinating bureau (to include, among others, the PLO) and the development of a permanent, though not formalized, secretariat. Though the general effects of these measures cannot yet be analyzed, in the longer term they cannot but be forces acting for a better-defined, if not a more radical, direction.

Perspective

The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Madame Bandaranaike, addressed the Thirty-First Session of the United Nations General Assembly on September 30 in her dual capacity as leader of her country and current chairman of the non-aligned nations. In her statement, she tried to place the decisions of the Colombo summit meeting and the non-aligned movement in perspective by explaining their motivations, methods and objectives. Clearly, the last word on the direction and impact of the group she represented that day will not be written in the immediately foreseeable future. In her remarks, however, there are grounds for optimism both for the non-aligned movement itself and for its relations with other countries.

She described the underlying philosophy of the group as "... the deliberate choice, by a large number of nations, not to be drawn into the policies of confrontation implicit in the system of hostile military alliances... a refusal to contribute to a division of the world into camps... the world should not... fear and distrust a movement which came into being as a creative alternative to mutual suspicion, recrimination and hate... [our] unity will continue undiminished in the years to come". Finally, another of Madame Bandaranaike's phrases might serve not only as her own testament to the movement but as a positive note upon which to conclude: "We have faith in our potential and our eventual success in establishing a world order of genuine peace, equity and justice, not so much because of the material power we wield but more because of the reasonableness of our proposals." So be it.

*Perspective
on decisions
of Colombo
summit*