

for us to do so. We must avoid words or actions or reactions which will weaken the association and our work for peace without any compensating advantage. Irresponsible action or talk which might divide the free countries in these days of crisis would be folly. I do not mean by this that we should hide our differences by pretending that none ever exist. In any coalition of free states there are bound to be honest differences and, unless they are examined and discussed honestly, they may fester underground and poison the partnership. But, in discussing our differences we should use only the accents of good temper and good faith, and we should display, always, a sense of responsibility and a sense of proportion, and indeed a sense of humour! We should have such a strong faith in each other's good purpose, that difference over methods to achieve them will not prove disruptive.

In our achievement of political democracy we have learned to settle our domestic problems by frank discussion, fairly and decently carried on. If we forget that lesson, and there are some signs of this, we may one day lose our system of free and popular governments. Similarly, if we do not project this practice into the international democratic system which we are trying to build, our coalition may fail to meet the tests ahead. It may even break up.

The tasks to which we are called, then, are manifold and challenging. We must support and strengthen the United Nations as the best agency for international co-operation, and build up defensive security in the North Atlantic alliance. We must also look much further into the future than the immediate crisis and do everything possible to develop the international community within the North Atlantic area. Above all, we must remember that we are increasing our military strength not primarily to win a war but to prevent one; not to defeat Communism in war, but to destroy it without war. The real test of our cause, will be how to use our increasing strength. To acquit ourselves well in that test, we will need both wisdom and steadiness. "The strong man armed keepeth the peace". But to do that, he must first keep his head!

Finally, if we are to discharge our full responsibility to the cause of freedom and to humanity, we must not lose sight of the idea of the human community which is world-wide in scale, although some peoples have been alienated from it by the action of their Communist totalitarian rulers. While we work to meet the challenge to our own civilization, we must not forget this human family from which such a large part of the world's population has cut itself off. There are, therefore, many concentric circles defining our responsibilities - to our own countries, to the present coalition of countries in the North Atlantic community, to the United Nations and to the world-wide community of all human creatures.

The kind of education and training you are receiving at Rollins will help you who are fortunate enough to be here to play your part as citizens in discharging these responsibilities wisely and well. It will help you, as you respond to the challenge of our times, to keep your feet firmly on the ground, but not in the mud; to hold your heads high, but keep them out of the clouds.