

Conclusion

It is a common experience in foreign offices that the urgent requirement drives out the considered idea, although much that is constructive and permanent may emerge from the press of action. The same is true at the United Nations. The record of debate in the political organs and their committees is strewn with ideas and proposals for improving the techniques and facilities for multilateral diplomacy, but there is little or no time to develop them at leisure. Perhaps the Assembly should make provision for some kind of continuing review of the methods of international co-operation which are practiced at the United Nations. In any event, I am confident that this new series of studies for diplomats will lead to fresh thought being given to the subject. Without wishing to appear subversive, may I suggest that the diplomatic profession could also do with its share of young members who raise questions about received ideas?

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