

careful assessment of all the implications and consequences supports the conclusion that in coming to terms with the Russians and French the U.N. acted wisely. For basically the same reasons that applied in this case we should expect that divisions which may develop in the future over issues of principle, no matter how fundamental, are unlikely to be pushed so far that any important member or group of members might feel impelled to leave the Organization.

40. The second factor affecting the U.N.'s capacity for future action is the relationship between what might be called the power base and the voting base. In the early days of the U.N. the members which were instituting action programmes were at the same time the ones which could provide the resources to carry them out.

41. Today this is all too often not the case. Resolutions are passed by majorities of 90 to 0 with twenty countries abstaining, which looks like a convincing demonstration of U.N.