

and then, one, two, or three of them ask other countries to jump in and help in solving the problems which those decisions have raised. There are times, no doubt, when the re-

tion from each other.

Each of the specific questions which arises is neither purely economic, nor purely military nor purely strategic. In making decisions on any one



UNITED NATIONS INTERNES

Twelve internes from ten different countries worked in various departments of the United Nations during the Summer. Visiting Ottawa subsequently, they were entertained to lunch by the Department of External Affairs. In the photograph, they are seen in the departmental conference room, Mr. Pearson presiding. The internes are from Belgium, Bolivia, Greece, India, Pakistan, Poland, Phillipines, United States, Netherlands, Canada. (Photo by Newton)

quirements for consultation and for co-operative decisions must be subordinated to the necessities of a grave emergency. But those occasions must be reduced to a minimum, before there can be any genuine collective action. That is one reason why I hope that the North Atlantic Regional System for security and progress will soon be formed so that within its framework the decisions which affect all will be taken by all. Only then will the common responsibility for carrying out those decisions be clear and unequivocal.

Canada is facing today the necessity of making grave decisions on its political and military relations with the other North Atlantic democracies. Canada is also facing the necessity of making decisions concerning its financial and economic relations with the United Kingdom and the other North Atlantic democracies. These decisions cannot wisely be considered in isola-

of the related questions, it is necessary to weigh the political, economic, strategic and psychological factors.

BALANCING FACTORS

If the decision is to be a wise one, it must therefore follow a very careful balancing of such political, economic, strategic and psychological factors. All of these factors are difficult to calculate; many of them are intangible.

The problems also involve a weighing of short run against long run considerations. In the short run, certain decisions may be preferable to others either because they do not disturb an economy too much or because they produce results immediately. However, these decisions, though preferable if one is looking forward only one or two years, may not be as beneficial as other possible decisions if one is looking forward five, six or seven years.

The purpose of balancing the various kinds of factors - short run and long run, political, economic, strategic and psychological - is to arrive at a policy which will best serve the interests of the people of Canada.

WAR NOT INEVITABLE

But the interests of the people of Canada cannot be considered in isolation from the interests of the peoples of the other North Atlantic democracies - nor can their interests be considered in isolation from ours.

The only course of realism today for the North Atlantic democracies is for each of them to consider problems arising out of their relations with one another as problems between friends and associates. This does not mean that each of us should do everything that any other member of the group says is in the interests of the whole association. It does, however, mean that each of us, before taking action in the political, economic or military field, must consider what the effect of its action will be on the total strength of the group as a whole - its total military, economic and moral strength.

Each of us must make these decisions, realizing that, though war is by no means inevitable, there is a risk that war may break out at any time. The extent of this risk is incalculable, but its existence cannot be denied. It is greater today probably than at any time since the war ended a short three years ago.

That, gentlemen, is a depressing statement to make. It is, however, based, I think, on a sober appreciation of the facts and the trends of today. You would not wish me to preach a doctrine of sweetness and light when I do not feel that way. Nor, on the other hand, do I feel that we need fall into despair and assume that nothing can be done to save the situation. Not at all. There is nothing inevitable in the relations between states.