

fear is the only thing holding us together in NATO because that is what holds their coalitions together. NATO is, of course, of vital importance as an organization for collective defence. There is no doubt about that, I will even agree that that is its primary task - the deterrence of aggression, acting as an agency for collective defence. But at the present time it is also very important as an agency for organizing common policy in other fields, and I think its importance in that regard is growing. It is important as a means of organizing a common political and economic approach to world problems and for co-ordinating our views and policies as to how we should meet threats other than military. There are also its economic functions; how it could assist materially under-developed countries. NATO itself is not, I think, the proper administering agency for this; it is too limited in membership and in character. But the NATO Council is a good place in which to discuss these economic matters.

"... We shall have, I hope, at the forthcoming NATO Council meeting more opportunity than we have had in previous council meetings to discuss these non-military matters, especially the co-ordination of our foreign policies.

"There is another gap in policy which is hurting the West; that is the separation between economic and technical aid to materially under-developed countries and political objectives; or maybe I should put it this way: we are suffering from efforts to close that gap in the wrong way by associating aid with the acceptance on the part of the receiving countries of 'cold war' political and strategic objectives. ... The purpose of foreign aid is as important as the aid itself. Aid of this kind, economic assistance of any kind on an international scale, I admit, is bound to be a political act of some kind. The question is: what kind?

"... The Russians, of course, are moving into this field if not in a big way, from one point of view, then certainly in a dramatic way, in a 'headline' way. There is no doubt that in moving into this field of international economic assistance in Asia and Africa the Soviet Union is guided primarily by political considerations. They are making lavish offers of help, some of which they will not be able to carry out and which, probably, they have little intention of carrying out; but there are others, on the other hand, which they intend to carry out and which they may indeed carry out very effectively. It would be a mistake, I think, to minimize the effort which they are making. They are doing something else. They are associating these offers of aid with assurances of sympathy and with understanding of the passionate desire of these Asian and African peoples for national freedom, for betterment and greater human welfare. They are lining up with them - sometimes hypocritically on that front.