

last Thursday by the Secretary of State of the United States. He reaffirmed our will to peace which is deep and abiding. On our side, that will to peace exists. Does it co-exist?

The Soviet bloc deny that our policies make for peace. They claim that our coalitions and our associations, particularly what they call the "aggressive North Atlantic bloc", are a menace to their security and are designed for aggressive war. Nothing could be more remote from reality than that charge.

It may be that their fear on this score is merely manufactured by propaganda as a cloak for plans and policies of their own, which in their turn rouse deep and anxious fear in us. But even if the Communist fear were genuine, it is unfounded. The peoples of our free coalition are passionately pacific, and its leader, the United States, as Canadians have special reason to know and appreciate, is one of the least imperialistically minded powers that ever had world leadership and responsibility thrust upon them. But even if anyone were tempted to believe these untrue Communist charges of American warmongering imperialism, does anyone really think that the United States could decree aggressive or provocative collective action by, say, the North Atlantic, the Inter-American or the Anzus groups?

Furthermore, this friendly association of other countries with the United States, some of which have had as tragic an experience of the miseries and destructions of war as the Soviet Union itself, should be a reassuring rather than a disturbing fact to all those who seek peace. As Mr. Dulles put it last Thursday:

"The Soviet leaders ... should know, and probably they do know, that community arrangements are the least likely to be aggressive. Military force which is within a single nation can be used offensively at the dictation of one government alone, sometimes of one man alone. Military force which is distributed throughout several countries cannot be used effectively unless all of the countries concerned are in agreement."

Then he added, and his words, I assure you, apply to my country:

"Such agreement would be totally unattainable except for operations responsive to the clear menace of aggression."

We of the free democratic countries must not and will not adopt any policy or take any action which could give any other state valid reason to fear for its security or for its legitimate national interests. Such interests, however do not include, as making for peace (and here I quote with complete agreement from Mr. Vyshinsky's speech of Monday last) "a policy which professedly is designed to explode the social or political structure of any other country".

But Communist doctrine, in our eyes, professes just that. That is one reason why we feel a deep, genuine fear -- not a fear, as Mr. Vyshinsky said, "artificially stimulated by the Pentagon." That fear flows also from the loss of freedom in Eastern Europe, from the Berlin blockade, from Korea, from the awful dangers of totalitarian tyranny, and from 175 Soviet divisions - if that is the figure - ready to march.