

No Charter, however, can ensure peace unless it is reinforced by good will and a determination to co-operate on the part of the great powers.

As you know, Article 43 of the Charter provides for the negotiation of agreements between the Members and the Security Council to make available "armed forces, assistance, and facilities, including rights of passage, necessary for the purpose of maintaining international peace and security."

Our Canadian delegations to the United Nations Assemblies made repeated efforts to have such agreements negotiated as soon as possible. But it was not long till it became evident that one of the great powers had no intention of entering into effective military agreements under the Charter to prevent war, and that therefore it was not enough for the nations which really wanted peace to rely for their security on the Charter of the United Nations.

After this situation had become apparent the nations of the North Atlantic area, acting in accordance with the provisions of Articles 51 and 52 of the Charter, negotiated the North Atlantic Treaty. The purpose of the North Atlantic Treaty, like that of the Charter itself, is to prevent war, and to do so by a combination of actual and potential strength and unity sufficient to prevent aggression from being successful.

Of course, that means that if there is aggression against any signatory of the Treaty, all the signatories become involved in hostilities. It means that the North Atlantic nations have given up the hope - and the possibility - of staying out of any future major war.

I do not think that represents a serious additional risk. Twice in a generation, it has been demonstrated that there is no real choice for North America when there is a world war. We are all involved sooner or later. I believe firmly that the smallest risk we can take is to remain united and to remain strong, so long as there is any likelihood of aggression.

Now the North Atlantic Treaty organization has been established and we are faced with new problems. The Treaty itself asserts that the North Atlantic community is not just a military alliance; the North Atlantic nations have undertaken to combine their economic, social and moral strength as well as their military resources. And if the North Atlantic Treaty is to be an effective deterrent to aggression, that combination of strength must apply in all those spheres.

Of course, the first requirement is sufficient armed strength to prevent any sudden overwhelming blow from destroying all power of effective resistance. But in these days, when weapons become obsolete so quickly, the North Atlantic Nations could probably make no greater mistake than to concentrate on piling up armaments to the point where they become a dead weight on our national economies.

We are accustomed to think of this "cold war" as a struggle between two ways of life, an ideological struggle.

Of course, it is that, but there is another way of looking at it. It is also a competition not so much in piling up armaments, as in the development of military potential.