

Neither do I wish to minimize, however, the significance of the nature of their differences over method. Communist China maintains an attitude of unreasoning militancy while the Soviet Union proclaims the policy of peaceful coexistence. The Communist dogma of the inevitability of war is thus at the very root of Sino-Soviet differences. How this conflict of view between the two leading nations competing for influence and domination of the international Communist movement is resolved can have the most profound influence on the peace of the world for years to come.

There can be little doubt of the aggressive nature of current Chinese policies. Quite apart from China's often proclaimed call for active prosecution of wars of liberation, her adherence to the doctrine of the inevitability of war, her rejection of the test ban treaty, and similar evidence of a hard attitude, Communist China has provided a modern example of expansionism through her limited invasion of India last year. A statement at the time revealed that her object was not only the promotion of territorial claims, but the diverting of India's economic resources to defence and the discrediting of India's democratic process. It had all the evidence of a bid to demonstrate to other nations that the principal power in Asia was Communist China, not India. It is also noteworthy that the Soviet Union condemned China for its intransigence in refusing to negotiate the border settlement with India on the basis of the so-called Colombo Proposals, and reiterated its belief that negotiations are better than war....

The dispute between Communist China and the Soviet Union is likely to force both of these countries to re-examine the fundamentals of their relations with the rest of the world.

We should be careful, however, not to become complacent at the sight of the two Communist giants openly quarrelling between themselves. There are factors which could make them keep their dispute, despite the evident contradictions, within bounds. But quite apart from this, it does not follow that bad relations between the Soviet Union and Communist China will necessarily mean any improvement in relations between either of them and the West, nor even necessarily any benefit to the non-Communist world in which they are already competing for influence.

China's Dangerous Isolation

How, then, are we to deal with the Communist Chinese colossus, whose annual population increase is equal to the present population of Canada? For almost the entire period of its existence Communist China has been effectively isolated from the non-Communist world, partly as a result of Western policies but partly out of deliberate choice. We have had a recent example of China taking an initiative to intensify its own isolation. The test ban treaty was a step, albeit a small one, away from the arms race and, therefore, away from war. It is unfortunate and ominous that the Peking authorities chose to express strong opposition to it, in sharp contrast to its ready acceptance by the vast majority of the nations of the world.

So we must carefully consider whether the degree of isolation which now surrounds Communist China is healthy, whether it promotes international peace or tends to intensify the threat to it. At one time, the Soviet Union