

pension of our work in the Commission but I certainly think that we should not be unduly cast down on this account, and we should certainly not underestimate the value and significance of the progress which has been made.

PROGRESS MADE

When the Commission began its sessions in June of 1946, now nearly two years ago, there was little to go on beyond a conviction that the dread potentialities of atomic war needed to be brought under effective international control. Since then the problem has been examined in its many intricacies and multitude of aspects. Gradually through the more than 240 regular meetings which have been held and the many informal discussions which have taken place a consensus has formed and found expression until today nine nations out of the eleven members of the Commission believe that they have found the right path forward. The circumstances that the U.S.S.R. does not yet agree should not be regarded too seriously at this stage. As a matter of fact the delegate of the U.S.S.R. has made substantial contributions to the discussion and at the least the U.S.S.R. has formed an anvil on which the rest of us have had an opportunity to forge and hammer out the conclusions we have now reached.

Up to date we have been more anxious that the U.S.S.R. should continue to be represented in the discussions and less concerned that they would at once agree to the majority proposals. We first of all had to find out for ourselves what it was to which we wished them to agree. I think I can claim that we have felt so convinced of the necessity for proper control and we are now so genuine in our belief as to how it must be brought about that we feel that something of this sincerity must find its way through to the people of the U.S.S.R. It is a fact that no people would benefit more than they would from what we have

proposed and so both on the grounds of benefit from the peaceful application as well as of security it is not too much to hope that eventually a way will be found to traverse the opposition of those who presently control the policy of the Soviet.

It is true that at present it is impossible to obtain agreement on the methods for control; the recent discussions on the Soviet proposals have shown that they are unprepared to yield on certain points which the other nations hold as essential constituents in any satisfactory plan. But it seems that the Soviet objections arise from the fact that, in the tension and mistrust of the world situation as it exists today, they evidently do not feel that they can give up, to an international body in which nations they consider unfriendly to them are bound to be in the majority, the degree of authority which the other nations are convinced is essential for security.

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

There are some grounds for hope, therefore, that in the future, when nations of the world may be less sharply divided and when the United Nations does in fact represent a body unified for the purposes of peace, it will be possible to convince the U.S.S.R. that the plan for the control of atomic energy put forward in the reports of the Atomic Energy Commission does in truth represent a proper basis for the elimination of atomic warfare and that it is not a plan to maintain the domination of certain nations. At that time we may hope that the Soviet will be prepared to discuss these proposals with a more open mind and that, with perhaps a few modifications, they will then accept their implications.

In addition to recording the remarkable unanimity of view of all those who have been permitted to approach this problem with open minds, I hope this report will be

recognized for what it is - not the end of "the intensive efforts which have been put forth but rather as a summation of results achieved to date and as a basis for continued efforts to be made in the Assembly and to be renewed in the Commission as soon as possible because it is imperative that atomic energy should be brought under effective international control in the interest of the security of all nations and all peoples.

It is in this spirit that our Third Report concludes and we have been very careful to provide that the Commission while "suspended" is nevertheless not to be disbanded. Moreover, a double method of recalling it together has been provided so that there may be no doubt that it will resume its work so soon as attendant circumstances become propitious.

REFERENCE READING

Reports of the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission to the Security Council. (December 31, 1946.) (September 11, 1947.) (May 26, 1948.)

Washington Declaration on Atomic Energy made by the Prime Ministers of the United Kingdom and Canada and the President of the United States. (November 15, 1945.)

Text of Communiqués made at the Foreign Ministers' Conference at Moscqw. (December 28, 1945.)

Resolutions of the General Assembly of the United Nations setting up the Atomic Energy Commission. (January 24, 1946.) (December 14, 1946.)

Lilienthal-Acheson Report on the International Control of Atomic Energy. (March 16, 1946.)

Baruch Statement on Atomic Energy made before the Atomic Energy Commission. (June 14, 1946.)