

...with respect to military security and national security, it is certain that we have yet achieved it. Although we have made real progress there is still a long way to go in making NATO a defensive bulwark against aggression and as one element in that security. The risk of aggression remains and our recent gains in defensive strength must be consolidated and extended, and our co-operation strengthened and enlarged before we can feel safe. So, I suggest, we must press ahead in our own country, and in other countries of NATO, not merely with strengthening the military side of the alliance but also with building its political, economic and moral strength as well where progress is sometimes difficult and discouragingly slow.

We have no reason to assume on our part that there has been any change of policy or of heart on the part of the Kremlin and its satellites in recent months since Stalin has laid down the new party line - characteristically enough in an article in a magazine. It is possible, however, that there has been a switch in tactics in Moscow, as has frequently happened before in the history of Communist imperialism. During the immediate postwar period its aim in the West was to extend political control over whatever areas its armies occupied, and to exploit the postwar instability in other countries of Western Europe so as to bring into power governments which would be friendly and could ultimately be controlled by the Kremlin. But the governments and peoples of the democracies have awakened to the danger and, particularly through NATO, have begun to organize their defences against it. An immediate present aim of the Kremlin is clearly to stop this progress toward security and unification by dividing and wrecking the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, by exploiting distrust of the United States within and without that organization.

With this object in view, Communist imperialists have mounted an offensive of propaganda and subversion designed to weaken, confuse, and discourage the democracies. The main vehicle of this offensive, that is up to the present although there have been some signs that it has been reduced, is the so-called peace campaign in which not only the formal peace organization but all Communist-front organizations are actively working. Meanwhile, much emphasis is being placed on, the possibility of peaceful co-existence between the Communist world and the democratic world which only the warmongering policies of the United States prevent - so goes the line, and some misunderstanding is being caused by it.

The ideal of "peaceful co-existence", in which indeed every man of good will must believe, presupposes an absence of aggressive intention. The Communist imperialists have not produced any evidence that their policies have in fact become compatible with their peaceful professions. They certainly have not produced any such evidence in the present Assembly of the United Nations. A genuine policy of peaceful co-existence implies a readiness to co-operate for the purposes of peace and for the promotion of human welfare. Instead of a readiness to co-operate for these purposes, the Communist imperialists resort to propaganda campaigns of hatred and falsehood. "Peaceful co-existence", in Soviet terminology, seems indeed to mean simply all mischief short of war, just as Soviet policy seems to mean military aggression if necessary but not necessarily military aggression.