

by the Atomic Energy Commission, to see if the gap between the two positions can be narrowed or even closed. The possibility of such examination was removed, however, when the Soviet representative walked out of that Commission on a totally irrelevant issue. One test of Soviet good faith in this matter would be its willingness to walk back again.

The Soviet delegate has recently stated - more than once - to the Committee that his country sincerely desires to cooperate with all states through the United Nations, with a view to strengthening the prospects for peace. All men of good will everywhere must welcome that statement.

Such a statement itself, however, will not remove the fear that overhangs the world today. Unlike the delegates of communist countries on this committee, I do not suggest that all on one side is perfect and all on the other is rotten; or that one side must take all the steps towards the reconciliation of opposing views.

I can, however, suggest two simple steps which, if they were taken by the Communist States - as they have long since been taken by us, would help remove our fears about the non co-operative basis of Soviet foreign policy and might thereby begin to establish that mutual confidence which is not completely lacking.

These steps would be:

(1) The Soviet Union should immediately join in the work of the United Nations specialized agencies devoted to such things as health, food and agriculture, instead of boycotting that work as at present. Also the Soviet Union - so rich and powerful - should bear its share of the burden of assistance to under-developed countries and of relief and rehabilitation in ravaged countries like Korea.

(2) The Soviet Union should cease the policy of isolating its people, its culture, its progress, from any contact with the non-communist world; should give its people an opportunity to learn for themselves that we are not all capitalist exploiters, imperialist warmongers, and gangsters; while we in our turn, should be given the opportunity to convince ourselves that the great, flourishing energies of the Soviet people are being solely devoted - as we are told - to the work of peaceful construction.

Progress in these matters would not itself be decisive in the cause of peace. But if we can make no progress here, what hope can we have for the solution of even more important problems.

If we can make this kind of progress, resolutions of the kind we are now considering will not be necessary. If we cannot, their passage or their rejection will not save us from that ultimate conflict which would be as unnecessary as it would be catastrophic.