

To the extent that this policy involves a certain easing of tension and the admission by the Government of the U.S.S.R. that war is not inevitable, it is welcomed by the Atlantic Powers, who have always supported this idea. It is now possible to hope that those principles of the United Nations Charter which have regulated the relations between the peoples of the Atlantic community may eventually also regulate between the Soviet Union and the Western Powers.

III. The reasons which gave rise to the Atlantic Alliance have not, however, disappeared. No progress has been made toward solving certain vital European problems, including the reunification of Germany in freedom, which have to be solved on a basis which would satisfy the legitimate security needs of all. The Western Powers cannot relax their vigilance until these problems have been solved and until a disarmament plan providing the necessary guarantees to all and an effective control system has been put into effect. Soviet military power continues to increase. Security remains therefore a basic problem, and the Atlantic Powers must continue to give priority to the maintenance of their unity and strength initiatives on the part of the Atlantic Powers. They are determined to pursue these initiatives with the same energy that they displayed in building up their defence organization and with which this will be maintained.

They solemnly affirm that this policy will be pursued in common, and based on the unity, solidarity and co-operation of peoples sharing common ideal and standing together in the cause of freedom.

IV. The Atlantic Council consider it timely and useful for the members of the Atlantic community to examine actively further measures which might be taken at this time to advance fore effectively their common interest. The Atlantic Powers already possess in the North Atlantic Council an instrument of unity and a forum for consultation regarding policies of general interest. In order to enable the Council better to perform these tasks, the Ministers agreed to appoint a committee of three ministers to advise the Council on ways and means to improve and extend NATO co-operation in non-military fields and to develop greater unity within the Atlantic community. The committee of three was requested to submit its report as soon as possible.

V. In the meantime, the Council agreed:

- (a) To undertake periodical examinations of the political aspects of economic problems;
- (b) To strengthen economic co-operation between member countries, to seek to eliminate conflict in their international economic policies, and to promote conditions of stability and well-being;
- (c) To instruct the permanent representatives of the Council to examine economic problems in the light of the ideas set out above and of the plan put forward by M. Pineau, Foreign Minister of France, calling upon the services of a committee of technical advisers working under their authority.

*(Continued on page 134)*