

the power blocs could be reached.

Even where there are differences in ideology and political systems, nations will find it advantageous and clearly in their own self-interest to join with their regional neighbours to work towards common goals: the improvement of their economies, enhanced military security and the reduced opportunity for external military and economic pressures to affect them adversely.

member states could agree on the formation of a peace enforcement

History has never been static; there have always been changes, but most of the time not changes that people and their political leaders have foreseen or desired. In our time, more than in the past, such changes will be rapid and profound. If appropriate courses of action are not carefully planned beforehand, unwise or hasty reactions in the face of chaotic and fluid conditions could lead to disaster. The time to prepare a plan of action for dealing with international conflict is now, before we are swept away suddenly by an unexpected current. At the top of the list for the formation of Regional Associations of Nations (RAN) would be Central Europe and Central America, followed by the Balkans.

Assembly or by the Security Council, influenced by distant political considerations, cause hesitancy.

WHY NOT THE UNITED NATIONS?

While some UN help might be desirable, especially if combined

When final negotiations over the formation of the United Nations began in the autumn of 1945, the fundamental differences separating East and West rapidly came into the open. The only way to establish the organization was to make major compromises in the drafting of its charter. The result was the creation of a body that was not capable of fulfilling its original mandate of avoiding the "scourge of war." Although many of the agencies of the UN have proven to be immensely helpful, its peacemaking and peacekeeping capabilities were flawed from the start because no agreement between

Arnold Blumberg, Beyond KENNEDY, Collier Macmillan, Toronto, 1972.