

Asians, Arabs, Africans are now flying jet planes, and driving tractors, and they no longer feel inferior to us in any field of technological or scientific endeavour. They certainly never had cause to feel inferior in any other respect! As Arnold Toynbee has recently pointed out, we should get accustomed to the idea that the West is now surrounded by the world.

The United Nations has already helped - and can help more - in driving home the realization of this development, the long run implications of which may be even more important for humanity than our present difficulties with the Kremlin.

Our world organization - where the voice of Asia already expresses itself clearly and in Asian accents, can do much, if we use it, to make this development peaceful and constructive rather than explosive and divisive. That is only one other reason why we should not falter or weaken in its support at this testing time in its short history.

With the increasing and complex ties that bind the nations together, ties that chafe as well as comfort, some agency for international co-operation and contact - and on the widest possible basis of universality - is not only desirable; it is essential.

If the one we raised at San Francisco is allowed to fail, much else will have failed beside our effort in international construction. Our best hope for peace would go too.

We must, therefore, persist in our determination to realize the purposes of our Charter through the international agency we have accepted; realizing that the moral value of a purpose is not lost because it is not easily attained. It is lost only if the effort to realize it is abandoned.

If this is true - and I think it is - then we must reject the counsels of those mistaken men who would substitute for this ideal of universal international co-operation - however imperfectly realized - the old and outworn concept of power politics; who would go back to the carefree dictum of George Canning "each nation for itself and God for us all" uttered at a time when Edinburgh was farther from London than Tokyo is today.

Faith in United Nations has been weakened by failure - and the responsibility for that failure lies not with the free democracies - to bring about peace in the cold war or a cease-fire in the Korean hot war.

But doubts and uneasiness have also arisen - or have been provoked - over the quality and loyalty of the men who serve the United Nations in the Secretariat and over our ability to keep our organization independent and free of crippling national pressures.

It is the first duty of the organization to serve - faithfully and efficiently - the international community, and not the interests of any member state.