

moment. On the military level this is the only sure guarantee of peace. It is, therefore, the duty of the free nations of the NATO and other alliances to make clear to all not only the folly but also the futility of sudden aggression. Many of us have lived through two terrible world wars, and looking back, almost the only thing about them that seems certain is that neither would have been started had the aggressors known the real strength and will to resist of those they sought to conquer and enslave. Our Free World has, therefore, a very real obligation to make its strength known. That, I believe, is the answer to those who may have wondered at the emphasis placed on military might at a Conference whose purpose was permanent peace.

And having said that, I hasten to add that there came to all of us at that Conference, as perhaps never before in history, the realization that more military and missile strength is not enough. It is for that reason that, in the long view, the most important achievements of the Conference were in the strengthening of our mutual defences on our common spiritual, economic and scientific fronts. In these fields, I feel certain we made good progress. We reached a wide degree of mutual understanding and decisions were arrived at which will result in an all-round strengthening of the ties which bind us together for peace.

The problems which face our countries are very great but I can say to you that there are no grounds for despair. NATO is an alliance of some four hundred and fifty million people. It extends across three continents. It joins hand with other alliances of freedom-loving peoples to ring the globe with a band of hope and determination that those among mankind who love peace and freedom will prevail as against those who would plunge us once more into war in a vain-glorious attempt at world domination.

What were the immediate fruits of the Paris Conference? It assured a unified and revived alliance which is going to stand together and to stand fast.

It made clear that the alliance is defensive in that it will, in strength, prevent the launching of war against any of us. NATO is aggressive only for Peace.

The Conference made clear that we not only seek peace, but we pursue it, and that each of our nations is anxious and desirous of bringing about disarmament of both nuclear and conventional weapons and armed forces.

There was complete agreement in our dedication not to win the next war, but to prevent it.

While the Kremlin has repeatedly avowed its desire for disarmament it has consistently refused to agree to any form of inspection or control, so as to assure that the pledged word of each of the nations to disarm will be kept.

The Free Nations want to bring about a reduction in tension. To that end the members of the alliance opened the door to the U.S.S.R. if it really desires to negotiate to bring about a halt to the armament race. But the reaction to this open and sincerely expressed willingness was not made very hopeful yesterday by the Soviet leaders who, instead of agreeing to a meeting of Foreign Ministers, suggested a special session of the United Nations on disarmament. That this suggestion by the Soviet is another stall for time would seem to be a reasonable