

Development, was organized at the request of the United States by countries recipient of Marshall Plan aid. It is perhaps not too much to say that it was the father of the Common Market. (It is interesting now to recall that the American proposal for an OEEC caused the Russians to walk out of the first international Marshall Plan meeting in 1947, and to force Poland and Czechoslovakia to withdraw their tentative acceptance of Marshall Plan aid. The Soviet Union realized then that such a group might one day become an effective roadblock to Communist ambitions.)

If the United States is to continue to meet its responsibilities of Western leadership in preserving the freedom of the Western World, it must again, as in 1947, put the national and international interest ahead of the short-term, special interest of its politically powerful minority groups. It cannot be repeated too often that communism is waging war against the West—relentlessly, craftily, cunningly. The West will lose this war unless it can maintain Western unity and can keep the contested countries independent and out of the Communist bloc.

If the Communists are able to win and organize most of the contested countries, communism will dominate the world. The West has NATO, but it is limited largely to a military alliance. There will probably be no shooting in Khrushchev's war. The Communists have a cheaper, shrewder way. They plan to take us alive, with all our assets intact. If they can encircle us, our grandchildren will live under communism, as Khrushchev has said. Western unity is essential to Western survival.

The 20 OECD countries—18 Western European countries plus the United States and Canada—comprise one-half billion of the most highly industrialized peoples in the world. Acting in unity, there is almost nothing that they could not do. Unfortunately, they are not so acting. Except for the Marshall Plan, the Communists have held the initiative and the West the defensive in this worldwide struggle. Defensive postures win few wars.

If the United States fails to associate itself with the Common Market movement there will be constant economic friction between Western Europe and the United States and its allies in the Pacific. A unified Western Europe, with its highly developed industrial and technological complex and its disciplined workers, would comprise the most efficient workshop in the world.