

to a dual policy of promoting suspicion and discord within the Western World and subverting the new societies in the less developed regions of the world, the independent nations of the world must be ready to respond with collective action. No one nation alone, no matter how great its resources, can counteract this ruthless pressure, can be decisive in its counteraction. This is especially true in the arena of world trade. With all the will and determination in the world, for example, the United States alone, through unilateral export controls, cannot prevent the Soviet bloc from harvesting the ripe fruit of technological innovation in free world industry through selective imports. Working together, however, the industrialized nations of the free world can make their weight felt in the balance of international economic action. They can constructively link their economic exchanges with the bloc to the cause of international peace. By applying the criterion of peace and political self-determination, the free nations can exercise decisively their choice of either providing to the bloc, or withholding from it, free access to the vast and diversified reservoir of industrial production available to them.

It is an incontrovertible fact that the advanced industrial countries possess decisive economic power in the world community. Although they represent only 18 percent of the world's population, they dispose of two-thirds of its industrial capacity. Working as a group, they represent an economic bargaining unit of tremendous weight. Their productive capacities are at present in a state of rapid expansion, under the stimulus of a growing internal market and a rising standard of living. They have it within their capability ultimately to persuade the leadership of the Soviet bloc that the path of economic cooperation rather than political expansionism is by far the more promising road to world peace and internal social progress.

It is quite feasible, therefore, at this juncture to attempt to make it clear to the Soviet bloc that trade policy does not function in a political vacuum. We are not convinced by their shallow preachments to the effect that improved trade relations bring in their wake, in a simple progression, better political relations among nations. Historically, this has not been true in the past, either recent or remote. To this day, it is quite obvious that the rising flow of trade between East and West has not reduced by one iota the Soviet drive to communize the world. The West European nations, for example, have kept their trade gates open to the Soviet bloc in good faith since the mid-fifties. But that has not prevented the Soviet leaders from provoking one war crisis after another, over the freedom of Berlin and other issues, thereby bringing the world recurrently to the brink of war through their persistent attempts to extend their political control over more territory.

By contrast, we say, with far greater justice, that the most urgent business at hand is to restore confidence among nations through the political process. Once the problem of peace and security has been faced in a spirit of good will, and a settlement has been achieved over such burning issues as Germany and Berlin to the satisfaction of both sides, two-way trade could begin to increase in earnest, without any mental reservations, without business people having to look constantly over their shoulders to see what new crisis may be brewing on the horizon as a result of the latest move on the part of the Soviet leadership to expand its imperial domain.