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SPEAKING PROGRAM

As of this date, March 10, there are 174 schools registered with the Extension Division of U.N.C. in the High School World Peace Study and Speaking Program. Last year, there were 172 schools registered by March 10. The **total number** of schools registered last year amounted to 175.

Reservations for the A.F.A.-Sponsored Chartered Bus Trip to New York City, the United Nations and Washington, D. C. will be closed on April 1. To date, 31 schools have registered for the trip, thereby leaving only 9 places open. A final mailing to the schools participating in the Speaking Program is being sent out immediately, urging them to send their reservations in to this office for the Chartered Bus Trip. We have had a number of schools placed on the "waiting list" each year because they sent in their reservations at the last minute.

From reports received from teachers handling the Speaking Program in their schools, this year's topic, "The United Nations—Its Problems and Opportunities", was well received, generating more interest in the students than is generally expected from a High School student.

Mrs. William Levering will lead the group to the U.N. once again this year. She will brief the group of students and teachers on "What the U.N. Is and Does". Reverend Ray Short from Durham, N. C., and Miss Sarah Hill Moore of Fayetteville, N. C. will serve as chaperones for the group, leaving on April 17 from Greensboro, N. C.

TOMORROW'S WORLD

By

GEORGE HOLT

A WINDOW TO THE FUTURE

President Eisenhower proposes that peace in the Middle East be guaranteed by American arms and that the Congress endorse his determination to do so.

The idea is that the United Nations should be used as our forum for decision in troubled areas; but that the United States make it perfectly clear to the world that American armed support is available, if requested by the Middle Eastern Nations which are threatened.

This is logical but it is not yet a true policy. Of course, the United Nations should be the forum through which the nations reach decisions wherever peace is threatened. But a United Nation with what powers?

It seems to me that the President's proposals should contain a demand that the present United Nations police force in the Suez area be made a permanent one. Obviously, such a police force could not be strong enough in the present world of armed nations to enforce its decisions if it were challenged by the armed forces of almost any nation.

The United Nations force at present can be no more than a moral deterrent. The moral value of such a force is very great. There can be no doubt that a permanent force representing world's great peace organization, in which some eighty nations are members and to which they have taken vows of peace, would not be lightly challenged. Still, it could be, and probably would be challenged if it were not publicly backed by the military might of at least one, and preferably several, of the great military nations.

Such a policy would have tremendous potential for the future. For it would open the road for American participation in a program which could logically lead to the following results:

First, a temporary United Nations force would be made permanent. The world organization would be given an enforcement agency which would be on hand for emergencies anywhere in the world, not merely in the Middle East. Who knows where the next major threat to the peace will occur?

Second, the United States would guarantee to back the police force with its own power, thus giving it far more persuasive leverage than it could otherwise have. Furthermore, other nations would be encouraged to join the United States in such a guarantee.

Third, the road would be open for far more specific and touch proposals regarding disarmament than have yet been made. For obviously, until the nations had disarmed and given the law enforcement powers to the United Nations, the only solution would be to have the nations back up the police force with their own contingents. This can be a sensible next step; but it would be utterly inadequate, and very dangerous, if nothing more were done.

Fourth, at the same time that the nations were urged to disarm, they should propose that the United Nations be given true judicial and administrative powers, so that the police force could not become an irresponsible organ not truly controlled by civilian power backed by statutes specifically limiting its field of action.

Such a proposal by the President would open a window to the future which would spread light and hope in a billion hearts throughout the world.

It is a great opportunity which he missed in his speech to the Congress on January 6th. Let us hope that he will expand his present program to include all these factors.