

"The United Nations—

Its Ideals and Activities"

before the Indian Council
World Affairs

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Address

FEBRUARY 2, 1956

NEW DELHI, INDIA

FEBRUARY OFFICE

only extemporaneous address Hammarskiöld

U. N. is thus remarkable

turned to words of S. Paul—faith, hope and charity—to define the de-
could be pursued.

and corrected by
The text given below is the verbatim transcript as
the Secretary-General.

I thank you for

invitation to address this audience and your

it especially because, coming here now to India
I longed to have an occasion to establish a contact
and I may add perhaps, of spirit. This opportunity
to me is a very welcome one indeed.

Mr. President, distinguished audience, may I first

thank your much

Council. I ap

for the second

—a contact of

which you hav

of the career of the Secretary-General. Well, destiny

each nation into its own hands. For the last two and a half w

travelling mainly through the Middle East and frankly, he

been tremendous, but there has been no time for this kind of

to accept today a speech with

h, from notes which I made on

its second decade. It is an ap

appropriate time for reappraisal of this experiment in world coope

here go. We know and understand

to these questions frankly, simply, and in very personal terms. Speak
freely, without my official tie on, speaking as a human being who
is engaged, and deeply engaged, in this venture.

make this appraisal in terms of ideological differences. I would like to
more practical. On the other hand, I would like to see a more
rational angle.

when we come to Ideology. The word is a little dangerous
s, representing all a body now composed of seventy-six Me
ns. But all the same, shades of ideas, philosophies,

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... it is not in a spirit of acquiescence, but in a spirit of trust—I would
... add in a spirit of trust and humility—in the face of destiny. With re-
... spect to faith, I may say in this respect
... that to very many it stands as a symbol of faith and hope. It stands as a
... testimony and from his own destiny so as to cre-

international conferences repeated at regular inter- daily. And we
nics have in the past. But even that overstate above that, un- The
as a supplement to, but as an essential part of the system, ne
may tackle their through which modern society and the peoples
re the United Nations. Through the United Nations problems
y-achieve as through the national organizations, regi- machin
multilateral negotiation has been made as a new, more posit-
new instrument for governments, a new technique of diplomacy
continue to be confirmed the I think from the ten years that
me/United Nations. A certain role was
they would have to be played by such mut- world a major role in
ings to bear the influence of other inte- fililateral negotiation, v
est companies, as well as most administrative, as well as a conse- w
presence, and with a high degree of emotion, information mem
points, and more detail
in this attempt to describe an ideology that the Finally, I ha

adminis-
mean.
cal Assis-
s, all the

and an organ which provides the technical instruments
of such sharing. (As regards the technical instru-

not only the United Nations with its Secretariat and T
echnice Administration but just as much the specialized a

members of the United Nations family, be the World Health Or
ganization (WHO), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) or any of
the other agencies, omitting none.)

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as one as a
an in any
because this is often forgotten. Previously, in the way of foreign policy

framework for sharing, for charity in the sense referred
to which I would like to draw attention, not because
this is often forgotten. Previously, in the way of foreign policy

same way we necessarily will have coexistence be-
its multilateral form and sharing in its bilateral form.

have been referred to in the
diplomacy
typeen shar

we have
any are an to me

we have the two-sided programmes of direct agreements
between countries, classical economic responsibilities
development. These programmes and agreements

ough.
ach represents something essential, something
we are really to do what we have to do. And I

good, but they are
The multilatera
which has to be

cial cooperation are better for both parties and will in the long run undoubtedly give the better results. I hope that this will be increasingly

recognized, thus: ~~that the various United Nations family of or-~~

be able to meet the increasing demands. In fact, ~~an amount of organization~~

can assure you that there is not only a willingness, but ~~sure of it~~

to be put to ~~it~~ there is an eagerness in all those varied organiza-

could be said ~~use, to much fuller use than at present.~~

my experience ~~This I think covers in very broad terms what~~

about the ideological aspects of the United Nations ~~it seems to appear to the common man.~~

it seems to appear to the common man. ~~would now like to firm up~~

ties of the United Nations. A good and orderly way to review ~~the activi-~~

ties of the United Nations. ~~At the beginning of~~

the second decade seems to be to comment briefly on ~~the various~~

the various major organs ~~of the United Nations~~

of the United Nations. ~~At the beginning of~~

At the beginning of ~~the second decade~~

the second decade ~~seems to be to comment briefly on~~

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the various major organs ~~of the United Nations~~

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the second decade ~~seems to be to comment briefly on~~

seems to be to comment briefly on ~~the various~~

the various major organs ~~of the United Nations~~

of the United Nations. ~~At the beginning of~~

that and they may be led into temptation and even fall not
 they can not be a protection in the debate use of Jew
 and notes toward savills and an extreme in man and

show that might, in some cases, has been stronger than right. In order to make it possible for the General Assembly to serve in this way for

science in the cases where such an appeal is made, it is necessary to work out the democratic parliamentary procedure to

d; that is to say, an equal right to the floor which I have already re- influence on the decisions of everybody in

there have been discussions about this or which I have already re-

g. It is one of those ideas which have come for everybody and an e- vision of the Charter. I think that we would the technical sense of v-

l if we were to abandon the present system. As you know, some- lose something very ess-

ay for weighted voting when we are ripe to world govern- that kind of weighted v-

the word not for the national state as up in discussions about

operation on the representation of sovereign national states. I shall revert—the veto rule, which however, as you know, does

the equal right of each Member nation in fact that each n- the views of supposed stronger countries. There is an exception to

I shall revert—the veto rule, which however, as you know, does the views of supposed stronger countries. There is an exception to

appropriate to the Security Council. The weight and importance of the developments during the tenth session of the Ge-

elop- I think that those of us who followed the developments during that session noted that in two cases—the most important

I think—the votes of the smaller countries were decisive and more than that, that the leadership of the smaller countries was decisive

(Again I must warn against misunderstanding. For the sake of co-

tudes which at the very beginning may be far apart, become, to a certain extent, frozen. I feel that in order to make the operations of the Se-

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there is no reason to get rid of it." This is quite true. The more ways we can reach unanimity on the abolition of the veto, we have reached a state of understanding among the permanent members of the Security Council which certainly would mean that the veto would no longer be a major obstacle to action by the Council.

The activities of the specialized agencies can be viewed as a whole and the activities of the specialized agencies can be viewed as a whole by the Security Council. This is a very important principle of the Charter of the United Nations, whose basic principle is that the Security Council should have the authority to make decisions on the economic and social Commission on Human Rights, which elaborates policies in detail.

The Council at present is that, in public opinion and in practice, the Council has not been given the place it should have in the hierarchy of the main organs of the United Nations.

in the develop-
ment on others.

for a line of de-

of conflict with

has had's deal. For that reason I think that

in the Charter equally with the other two Coun-

re again we may, all over the world, find an in-

derstanding of this problem which the Council has to tackle

ance that can be given through international coopera-
tion towards self-determination of peoples so far d

Here again we have a Council which can lay the ba

drop in which

it rightly takes its ra

cils, and I hope that

creasing

The Council can look back at a good record in terms of results

we will set the ene ... i ... look to ward the next two years, I think

gence of new national States which I hope will quickly take their

at the table of the United Nations as Members, thus coming in

with their own not only as independent States, but also as independent Sta

ents. access to the forum of the world which the United Nations rep

The problem of self-determination which dominates this part of the

know super-diplomacy or super-organization. I do not think I should ever compete with the United Nations Secretariat-General, never tries and never will to do anything that would try to test any country. I am firmly against any kind of attempt at policy-making through a kind of uncoordinated mix into international affairs of the sort of volunteering as a matter. But something of that kind if it is called upon that is not down in the Charter.

What ever you may have in mind, function of the Secretariat is not to compete with the activities of governments, if perhaps give guidance in a public sense and not to serve as a mediator to keep I might put the reply in this way: Its function is to find a way and to broaden whatever may be the common denominator.

There is no doubt about the finality. It is a difficult because of the fact that there is no doubt about the finality. As to general aims, we must do it in a way that is not to be done in that respect, and very much is done in direct contacts and in public relations as well. As to broadening it, there we come to what is really a crucial point—that is to work not as a mediator but in such a way that you daily and constantly increase the understanding of "the

other point of view" where the understanding of the extent to which the other point of view is on the other side. It is an achievement which is very much needed, and I feel that it is highly challenging that its results are rather encouraging. If we translate what has just been said into terms of practical action, the Secretariat has to analyse positions and problems; when asked to do so, it should try to find a way to bring about some agreement and it has to

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of traditional international relations. International relations. In his book, he mentioned the International Court of Justice and also the International Law Commission. I have only one thing to mention also the International Law Commission. It has been re-mentioned after the Second World War, the central significance of international

cooperation between the Organization and the United Nations. Forward to the
the active, expanding, dynamic peoples of Asia.

... dances in the ... A couple of days ago, in Bangalore, I saw s
... poem by Radh-

... Tagore, and, in thanking our hosts, I felt that it was appropri-

... quote a few lines of the poem which was represented in the

These are the lines:

Listen to the rumbling of the clouds, oh heart of mine.
Be brave, break through and leave for the unknown assignation.

... ink that these lines, which—at least to me, as a European—seem
... of deep trends of thought in this people, express in a very noble
... attitude we must take to this venture which is the United Na-

... ford to lose that kind of confidence in ourselves and in the w
... man which makes us brave enough to break through and leave
... leave—for the unknown assignation.