

12 NATIONS PLEDGE PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH

In the stately music room of London's Lancaster House, 12 Foreign Ministers - under the chairmanship of America's Dean Acheson - meet in an open-to-all session of the Atlantic Council. Mr. Ernest Bevin's eleven-word summing up defines the purpose on which all the Ministers are agreed. "We are engaged in the creation of a great Atlantic Brotherhood." That is to be the watchword of these 12 nations - bound in peace to prevent war. A permanent London headquarters to co-ordinate defence plans is to be established, for, says Mr. Dean Acheson:

Nat.and. "The nations of the Atlantic Council are accordingly resolved, by their united effort, to build up a system of defence, equipped with modern weapons and capable of withstanding any external threat directed against any of them. They are determined that freedom, which is the common basis of their institutions, shall be defended against every threat of aggression or subversions, direct or indirect. Freedom means the independence of nations, the respect for spiritual values and the dignity of man. The Council has recognised that only through co-ordinated plans and effort could its great objectives be achieved. To this end we have taken six important decisions to improve the functions of the North Atlantic Treaty organisation and to guide its future work. I now declare this final meeting of the 4th session of the North Atlantic Council adjourned."

To the immense resources of the free world, to its industrial and scientific development, the nations of the Atlantic Community bring the spiritual strength that comes from freedom. In that strength lies the way to peace.