

MORAL RE-ARMAMENT

RECENTLY over 1,000 delegates from 42 countries have been attending the Moral Re-Armament Assembly of Nations at Mackinac Island, U.S.A. Among the South Africans present were the former Rugby Springbok George Daneel and Mrs. Daneel of Pretoria, Mr. and Mrs. Bremer Hofmeyr of Johannesburg, and Mr. K. Gladwin of Cape Town.

Also present were Mr. M. Moerane, Vice-President of the Federation of African Teachers' Associations, and Mrs. Moerane of Durban, and Mr. E. Nwana, a teacher from Port Elizabeth. Mr. Moerane is co-author and a principal actor in the all-African colour film "Freedom," which has recently had its world premiere in Hollywood and has been selected for showing at the Berlin Film Festival.

The group of delegates from Britain include the Managing Director of "The Scotsman," the Deputy Chairman of Barclays Bank, the Secretary of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers, the former Air Commander Central Atlantic under NATU, and a number of trade union leaders.

The purpose of the Assembly was to demonstrate an idea which has the power to change men and unite them above the human divisions of nationality, colour and political viewpoints.

Messages to the Assembly were sent by Chancellor Adenauer and Foreign Minister von Brentano of

ASSEMBLY

Germany, twenty British M.P.'s from both sides of the House, Prime Minister U Nu of Burma, the President of the Philippines, the Shah of Iran, and leaders from all parts of Africa, including several chiefs from the Transkei.

The Assembly heard from the West German Government's leading adviser on Russian and East European Affairs. Dr. Hans Koch, who accompanied Dr. Adenauer on his last visit to Moscow, quoted from Stalin's political testament where he advised the future leaders of Russia "not to highlight the struggle between the communist and non-communist world, but to intensify the conflict among the imperialist capitalist powers." Referring to the unity he had seen created at the Mackinac Assembly, Dr. Koch continued, "What Stalin really feared was a universal ideology which could unite Germany and Japan with their former enemies and bridge the gulfs which divide races and continents."

Attending the Assembly were five plane-loads of delegates from Japan, Korea, Burma, Indo-China, the Philippines and other countries. Prominent among the Japanese delegates were a hundred of the leaders of the student organisation who had been invited to Moscow but chose instead to go to Mackinac.