

# WHICH WAY SRI LANKA?



# **A pocket guide to the future**

*We wish to thank the many individuals  
and Organisations whose services and  
assistance made this publication possible.*

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Dear Reader,

You may have felt, as we do, that life is uncomfortably like living on a volcano. You never know when the whole thing is going to blow up.

So we decided to see what goes on in this world, what has made us land in the present mess, and what we can do about it.

Yours,

FELLOW INVESTIGATORS



In Sri Lanka years ago  
we had a great civilisation.



Next came the

## COLONIAL AGE



Then we entered





NOW  
WHAT  
?

We have  
FREEDOM  
But we still have  
DIVISION  
CORRUPTION  
EXPLOITATION  
VIOLENCE





Our people need  
HOMES  
FOOD  
WORK  
EDUCATION  
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT



In our battle for Independence  
we were united.



Now we need a larger purpose  
to build a new Sri Lanka.

How can we achieve:



We can plan a new society on paper.



But we can only build it on new men.

Society can only be

as united

as just

as unselfish

as those who make it up.

## THE CAPITALIST WORLD

has great wealth, but in a lifetime it has produced

- Wars
- Dictatorship
- Division
- Disillusion

# THE COMMUNIST WORLD

has great power, but it  
has also produced

- Wars
- Dictatorship
- Division
- Disillusion

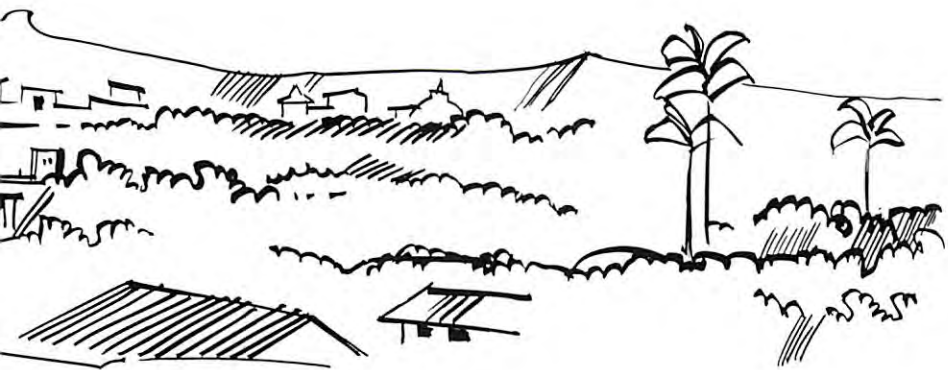
Must we make the same mistakes  
all over again?

Could we not avoid the wrongs which  
have plagued these worlds?





## WHAT IS SRI LANKA'S FUTURE?





The Buddha says:

'Hatred does not cease  
by hatred.

Easily seen are the  
faults of others, but one's  
own faults are hard  
to see....

conquer the angry man  
by love; conquer the miser  
with generosity; conquer  
the liar with truth.'

Hinduism says:

That man attains peace who  
abandoning all desire moves about  
without demands, with the sense of  
'I' and 'Mine'.

The Bhagavad Gita





Mohammed said:

'God will not change a nation  
unless the people themselves  
change.'

The Koran

Jesus said:

'Blessed are the pure in heart...'  
'Those who have wronged you,  
I say, forgive not seven times  
but seventy times seven.'

The Bible

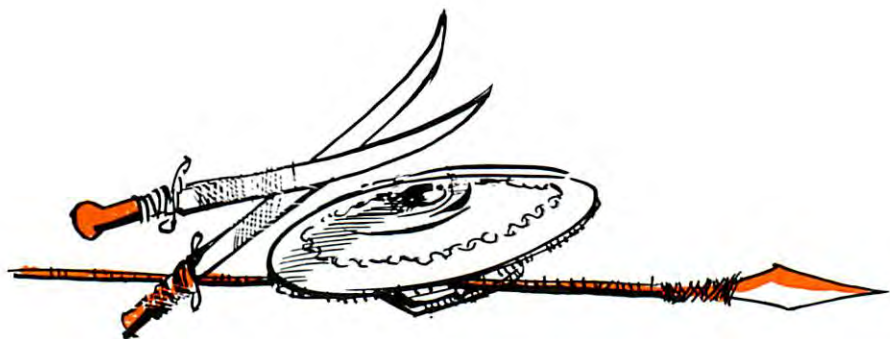


TO MEET THIS GREAT CHALLENGE  
WE MUST...

## MODERNISE MAN



Yes, modernise man.  
Man who has conquered the moon,  
who can explode the atom,  
is not modern himself.



He remains PRIMITIVE in his hates,  
his greeds and his fears.

In an age of nuclear weapons, hatred  
of the other class, race or nation,  
can mean suicidal war.

It could mean the end of us all.



We have learnt to master the forces of nature. Now we must master the forces of HUMAN NATURE.

We must answer the question...



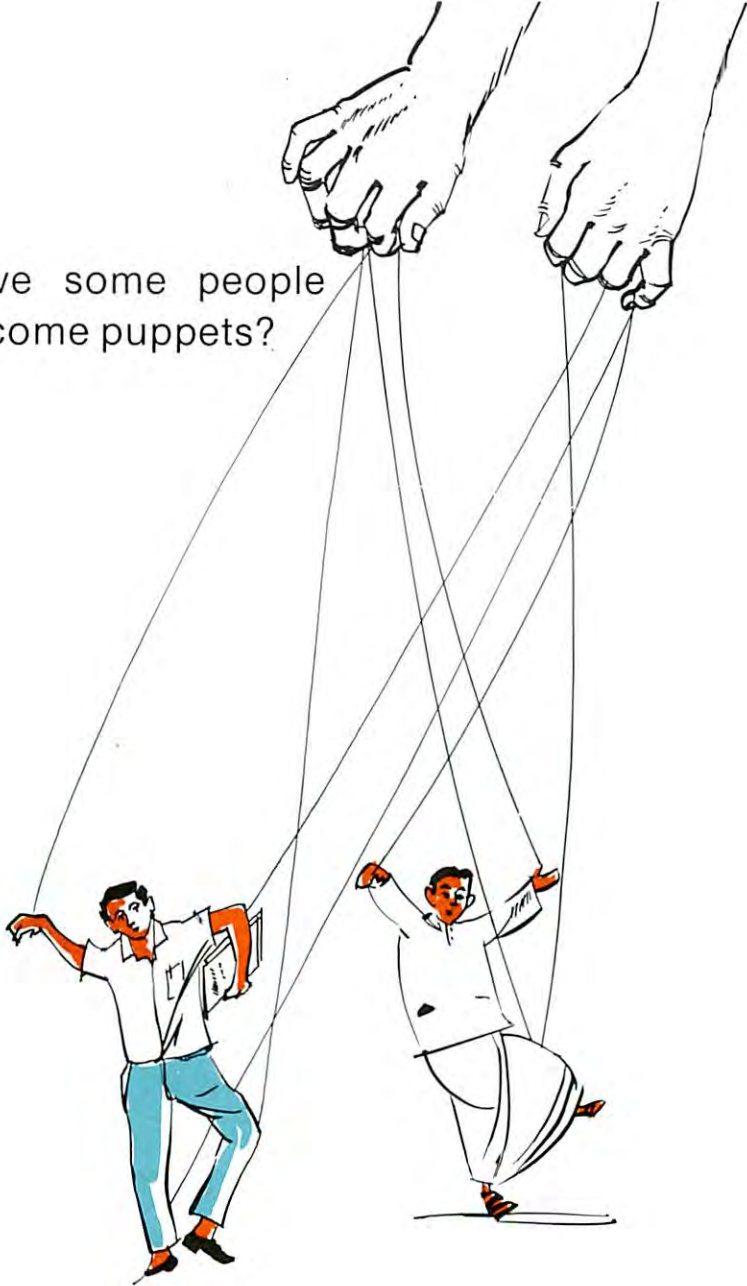


Why are some too rich...



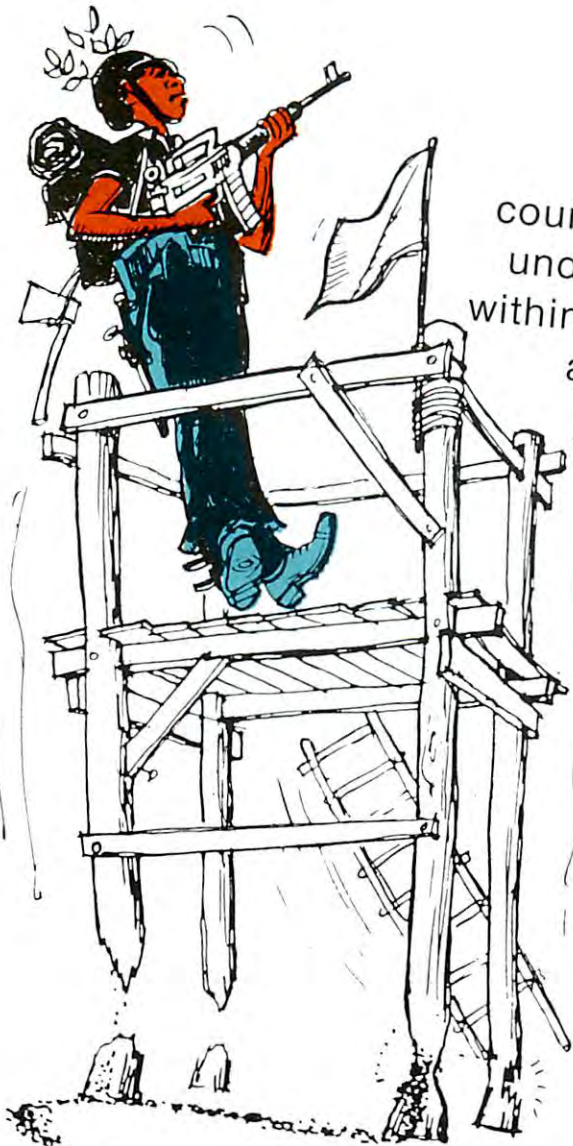
while others are too poor?

Have some people  
become puppets?





How is a  
country's freedom  
undermined from  
within before being  
attacked from  
without?



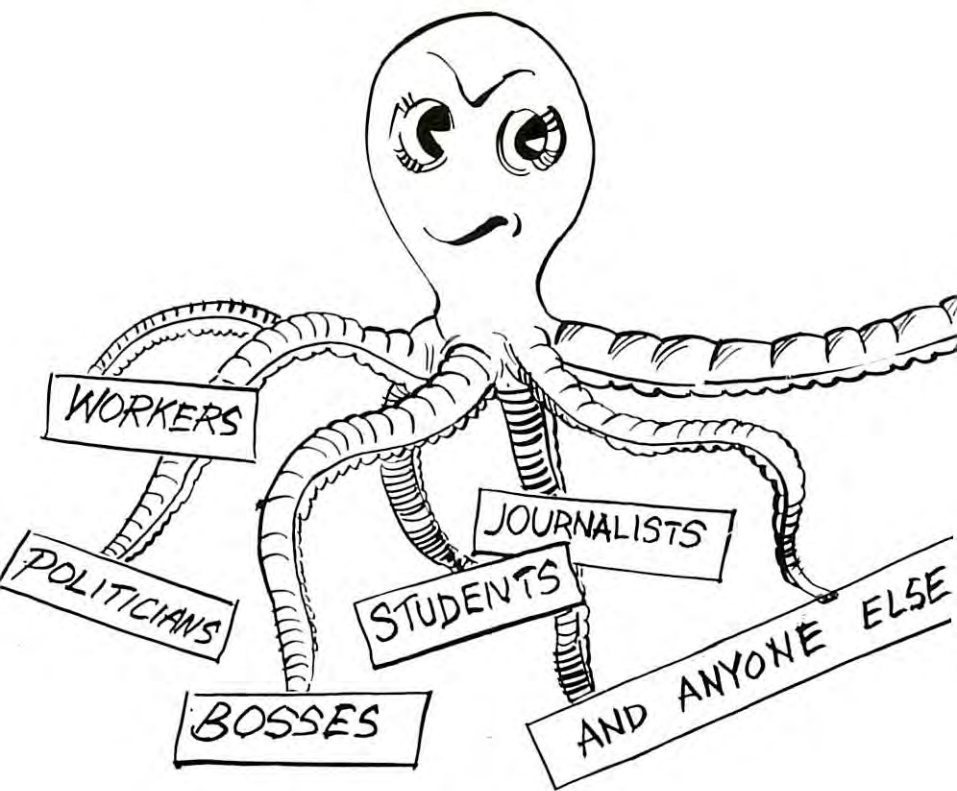
Men and nations are open to exploitation and can lose their freedom because they are not proof against the internal enemy—

**SELF-INTEREST**

Its slogan—  
‘Get what I want—  
how I want—  
when I want—  
and to hell with the rest!’



It is at work  
everywhere  
among





WELL,  
IT HASN'T  
GOT ME!

Hasn't it?

What are  
YOU  
guided by?  
Here are  
some  
possibilities:



## MONEY



Consequences: bribery, corrupt practices in elections, employment contracts, which create bitterness, class war, plots and coups; loss of confidence by those who could bring trade and industry, and so UNEMPLOYMENT

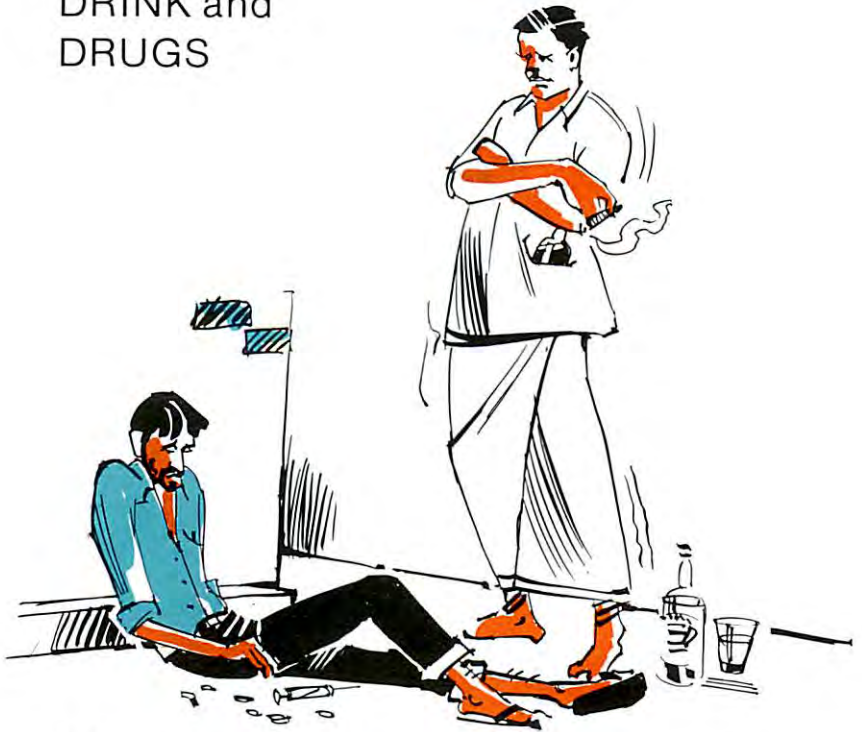
## SEX



Consequences: adultery  
broken homes  
venereal diseases  
blackmail  
delinquent children



# DRINK and DRUGS



Consequences:

men who are confused

lazy

indisciplined

slaves to their desires

controlled by others

# AMBITION



Consequences:

Racialism and  
struggles for power  
nepotism and inefficiency  
division and war

# HATE

Consequences:

fear

revenge

disintegration

killing



*Men who are run by these motives  
cannot be trusted to give the needed  
leadership in national affairs or in  
any walk of life*

We need...

...men who will decide —



NOT WHO IS RIGHT



BUT WHAT IS RIGHT

WHAT'S RIGHT? HOW DO  
I KNOW WHAT'S RIGHT?



There are ABSOLUTE STANDARDS for human society just as there are for engineering.

What sort of building would result if architect and builder did not employ universally recognised standards?



It's because we don't test our lives by absolute standards that society is in danger of collapse.



Here are the standards...



THESE STANDARDS ARE THE

ABSOLUTE  
HONESTY

THE  
STRAIGHT  
ROAD  
TO  
NATIONAL  
UNITY,  
SECURITY,  
PROSPERITY

ABSOLUTE  
PURITY

YOU CAN'T  
LIVE  
CROOKED  
AND  
THINK  
STRAIGHT






FOUR PILLARS OF A NEW AGE

ABSOLUTE  
UNSELF-  
ISHNESS

THERE IS  
ENOUGH  
IN THE WORLD  
FOR  
EVERYONE'S  
NEED,  
BUT NOT FOR  
EVERYONE'S  
GREED

ABSOLUTE  
LOVE

IF  
EVERYONE  
CARED  
ENOUGH,  
AND  
EVERYONE  
SHARED  
ENOUGH,  
EVERYONE  
WOULD HAVE  
ENOUGH



YES, BUT WHY  
ABSOLUTE  
?

A standard must  
be absolute, or it  
isn't a standard.



Who wants  
brakes  
that  
almost  
work?

Or a canoe that floats most of the time?





'But doesn't this sound rather like having to change my ways?'



I KNOW  
THINGS ARE  
WRONG, BUT  
WHY SHOULD I  
RISK MY JOB,  
MY POSITION,  
MY FRIENDS,  
TO CHANGE ?



'IT ONLY REMAINS FOR  
GOOD MEN TO REMAIN SILENT  
FOR EVIL MEN TO TRIUMPH'

—Edmund Burke



Every person wants to see  
the other person  
change.



Every country  
wants to see  
the other country  
change.



But everybody is  
waiting for the other  
to begin.



If you really want an answer for your nation  
and the world, the *best* place to start is with  
yourself and your nation.

WHO,



ME?

How can I change?

If men do not choose  
to be governed by the basic  
teachings of their  
religion, they contribute  
to the decline of Society

God gave us

two ears



and one mouth

Why don't we listen twice as much  
as we talk?



When you listen to your Inner Voice, after examining your life against the four Absolute Moral Standards, new thoughts begin to flow. These thoughts will enable you to be a link in the new society.

It does not matter who you are or where you are. Accurate, adequate direction can come from the Divine Spirit within you.

Through this new illumination, human nature can be changed.

A change in human nature will usher in new men, a new society and a new world.

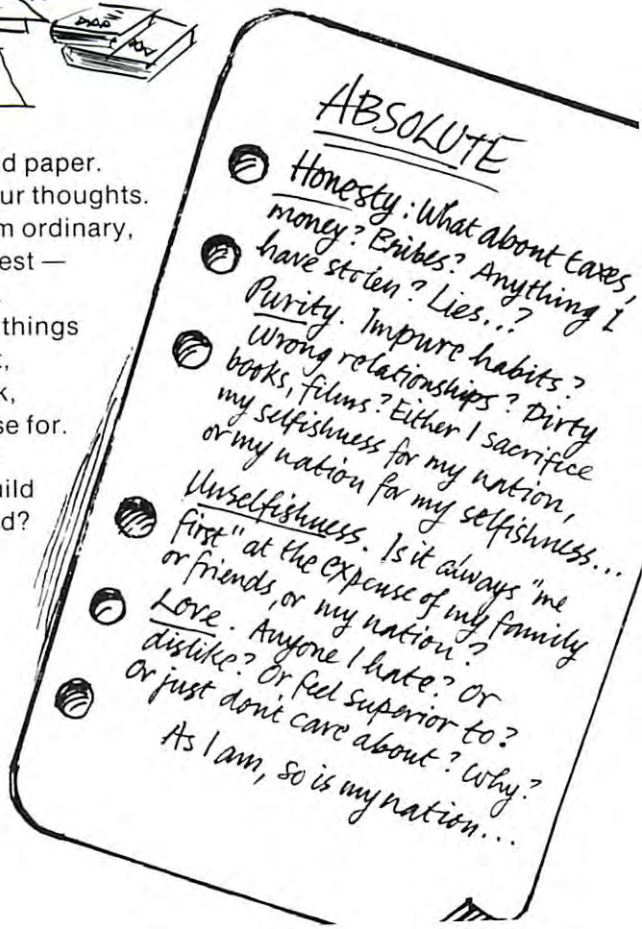
It's worth thinking over: am I part of the cure, or part of the disease in my nation?

Remember — you can't make a good meal with rotten food, or a new country with rotten people.





Take pencil and paper.  
Write down your thoughts.  
They may seem ordinary,  
but be honest —  
absolutely.  
You may have things  
to put right,  
to pay back,  
to apologise for.  
Well, how else  
can you build  
a new world?



## ABSOLUTE

① Honesty: What about taxes,  
money? Bribes? Anything I  
have stolen? Lies...?

② Purity. Impure habits?  
Wrong relationships? Dirty  
books, films? Either I sacrifice  
my selfishness for my nation,  
or my nation for my selfishness...

③ Unselfishness. Is it always "me  
first" at the expense of my family  
or friends, or my nation?

④ Love. Anyone I hate? Or  
dislike? Or feel superior to?  
Or just don't care about? Why?

As I am, so is my nation...

The fact is that —

HUMAN NATURE CAN BE CHANGED;  
that is the root of the answer.

NATIONAL ECONOMIES CAN BE CHANGED;  
that is the fruit of the answer.

WORLD HISTORY CAN BE CHANGED;  
that is the destiny of our age.



In the atomic age  
the most powerful force  
is the Divine Spirit at  
work in a man's heart  
and in a nation's will.

## SRI LANKA HAS A DESTINY...

- *You can begin by changing yourself*
- *Enlist your family and your friends*
- *Together decide to put right all that is wrong in your community and nation*

## ...YOU HAVE A PART

Tens of thousands in Asia, in North and South America, in Europe and in Africa are accepting the challenge to work for the moral re-armament of the whole world. It is the most daring and difficult task of our century.



EVERYONE

is needed—

every party,

every tribe,

every class

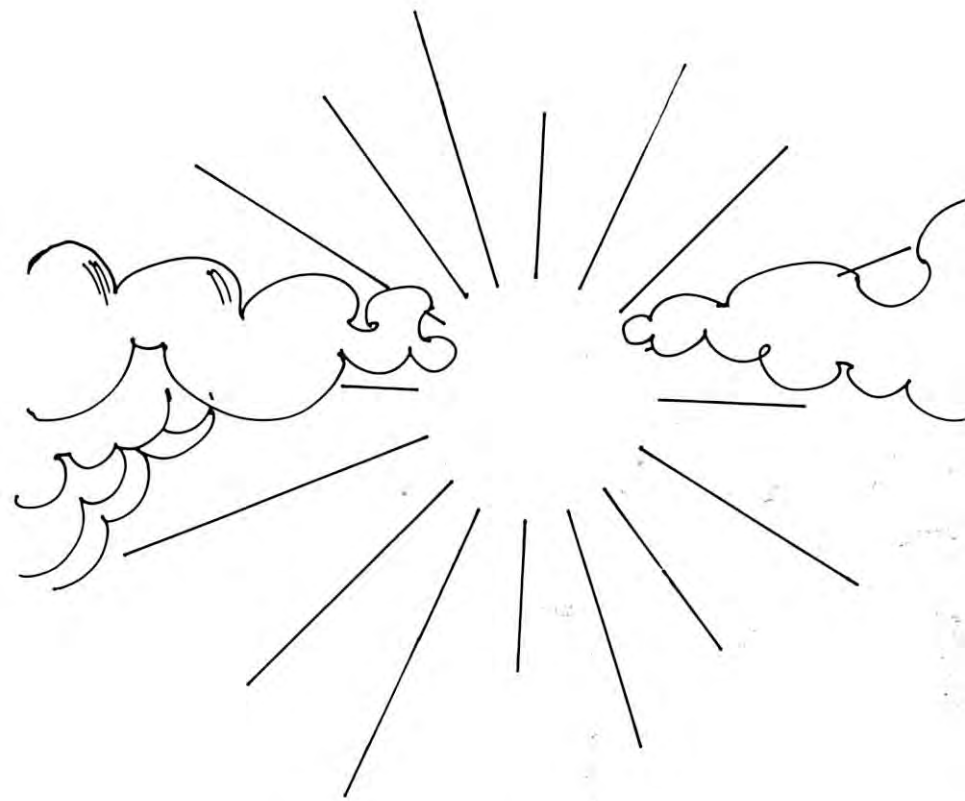
every creed,

every race....



it is the ordinary man's chance  
to remake the world.





On a visit to Asia in 1952  
starting in Sri Lanka  
Frank Buchman said:  
'Before a God-led unity  
every last problem  
will be solved....

Empty stomachs will be filled with food...





...empty hands with work

...and empty hearts with a way  
of life that really satisfies.'





then....

INDUSTRY

HOMES

ARMIES

CABINETS

NATIONS



will produce enough for the needs of all

will secure the next generation from chaos.

will give new standards of moral training to their nations.

and diplomats will be totally effective for they will have the power to turn enemies into friends.

will arise from apathy, disillusion and division.

**THIS IS OUR FUTURE — and it works!**

If you want to know more,

write to MORAL RE-ARMAMENT:

ASIA

23 Horton place, Colombo 7, SRI LANKA

Asia Plateau, Panchgani, Maharashtra, 412 805, INDIA

4-13-4 Sendagi Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113, JAPAN

AFRICA

P.O. Box 14510, Nairobi, KENYA

P.O. Box 2102, Lagos, NIGERIA

P.O. Box 71735, Ndola, ZAMBIA

9 Deall Road, Alexandra Park, Harare City, ZIMBABWE

EUROPE

Mountain House, CH-1824, Caux, SWITZERLAND

12 Palace Street, London, SW1E 5JF, UNITED KINGDOM

68 Bd Flandrin, 75116 Paris, FRANCE

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