

President's official family, was optimistic. Reaction to the newly accelerated arms race will provide some positive force toward an agreement, he said. But beyond that he was hopeful because, in his unquotable words, you have to be to get anywhere on the problem. Disarmament will come, he felt certain. The question is whether it will come about before or after World War III.—ROBERT TOTH.

While Howard Margolis is on vacation, his section will be written by guest reporters. Robert Toth, this week's guest, is on the staff of the New York Herald Tribune.

U.N. Specialized Agencies: With Few Exceptions, They Are Unaffected by International Political Storms

The turmoil that currently afflicts the United Nations' political organs has had few repercussions in the U.N.'s numerous scientific and technical agencies.

In contrast to the pessimism and uncertainty that envelop the General Assembly and the Security Council, an atmosphere of business as usual exists in such specialized agencies as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization. While these and many of the other specialized agencies are closely associated with the United Nations, they are organically and to a large extent financially independent.

Membership is on a voluntary basis, open to nations regardless of whether they belong to the U.N. West Germany, for example, is not a U.N. member, but belongs to virtually all U.N.-associated agencies. The Soviet Union and most Eastern Bloc nations have not chosen to join FAO—presumably to shield agricultural deficiencies from Western eyes. However, the U.N. dues of these nations help provide U.N. supplemental funds for the FAO budget, and FAO has been carrying out its work beyond the range of political shock waves.

Of particular significance for the various agencies' immunity from international strife is the fact that their programs rarely touch raw nerves in the East-West conflict. When they do, however, the possibilities for effectiveness become extremely limited.

UNESCO, with a current biennial budget of \$32,514,228 of member

funds, plus over \$23 million in funds provided by the U.N., has given priority to primary education in Latin America, arid land research, and the promotion of cultural understanding between the Orient and the Occident. These programs step on no one's toes and in many respects parallel foreign-aid efforts by both the Soviet Union and the United States. UNESCO sources say they are being carried out free of the turbulence now buffeting the political bodies of the U.N.

The political weather around the International Atomic Energy Agency is in sharp contrast. The agency, founded in 1957 on the basis of President Eisenhower's atoms-for-peace proposal, has experienced slow growth because of delays in reactor development and East-West differences over nuclear inspection. Last week, in the detailed U.S. disarmament plan issued after President Kennedy's U.N. address, it was proposed that the IAEA exercise safeguards over the international transfer of fissionable materials. In addition, as was pointed out in the *New York Times* several days later, the U.S. was close to completing a bilateral agreement with IAEA for inspection of the experimental reactors at Piqua, Ohio, and Argonne National Laboratory, and of the graphite and medical research reactors at the Brookhaven National Laboratory.

The object of the disarmament proposal and the inspection agreement, according to an American spokesman at the U.N., was to elevate IAEA's standing as an agency for implementing nuclear control agreements, and to establish for it a role as an international instrument for inspection. The proposal for an IAEA role in the East-West dispute over implementation of an arms agreement set the agency at once apart from the political placidity common to most of the other U.N. agencies.

Vienna Meeting

At IAEA's general conference in Vienna, Vasily S. Yemelyanov, head of the Soviet Atomic Energy Authority, warned against attempting to extend the scope of the agency. He charged that the United States is attempting to use the agency for political purposes, and opposed any steps designed to turn the agency into an instrument of arms control.

While Yemelyanov apparently was reacting to the prospect of IAEA being thrust into the touchy area of nuclear

inspection, American delegates were optimistically announcing progress in Soviet-American discussions on joint construction of a gigantic nuclear accelerator. The motivation for these discussions was the desire to share knowledge and costs.

As in the cases of UNESCO, FAO, and other agencies, East-West cooperation finds fertile ground outside the boundaries of Cold War interests.—D.S.G.

General Electric, with Prospects Dimmed by FCC, Drops Bid for Communication Satellite

The General Electric Company has formally withdrawn its application for participation in the development of a space satellite communication system. G.E.'s action strengthens the commanding position held in this field by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, and is certain to intensify congressional misgivings about the FCC's apparent predilection for an ownership arrangement that the Justice Department has charged would give dominance to A.T.&T.

General Electric's bid for participation in the potentially lucrative business of space communications was never warmly received by the FCC. A.T.&T., which got a head start in development of space communication plans, proposed to the FCC last spring that the system be limited to international carriers, that is, firms licensed for overseas communication activities. The proposal was countered by G.E., which sought to have the system opened to equipment manufacturers as well as carriers. In a ruling endorsing the A.T.&T. position, the FCC stated that inclusion of the equipment manufacturers could "result in encumbering the system with complicated and costly corporate relationships, disrupting operational patterns that have been established in the international common carrier industry, and impeding effective regulation of the rates and services of the industry."

General Electric's position, backed by a number of major manufacturing firms, was supported by the Justice Department. The antitrust division argued that with A.T.&T.'s dominance in domestic and overseas telephone service, exclusion of the manufacturers would give A.T.&T. overwhelming control of any system made up solely of carriers.