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## FOREIGN AFFAIRS

*Like all American Governors, Governor Tawes felt the strong pressures of external events and on appropriate occasions expressed his philosophy and concern. His traditional position was clearly stated in the addresses selected; his strong belief in the historical strength of American democracy, his reliance on religious principles as guides for conduct in international affairs, and his faith in the ultimate success of American politics. He likewise paid tribute to those who had served in the armed forces.*

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### ADDRESS, 39th ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

BALTIMORE

June 26, 1959

It is a rare pleasure for me, as your Governor, to welcome you—members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and your guests—to this 39th Annual Convention of V.F.W.'s Department of Maryland.

No doubt many of you a few nights ago heard our Secretary of State in the report he made to the American people on the Foreign Ministers Conference in Geneva. You recall he stated that no significant progress was made toward a settlement of the problem of the continued division of Germany and Berlin, and, in explaining this failure of accomplishment, he noted how difficult it is to negotiate with the Soviet Union. The Russians, he said, engaged in a great deal of propaganda and made some threats, but they gave no indication that they were interested at all in genuine negotiations. Knowing this trait of our potential enemy, all of us can sympathize with our diplomats in the tremendous problem they face in attempting to find the way to a lasting peace with justice in the world. Under these circumstances—with the Soviet Union defying all normal methods of settling disputes—it is gratifying to us to know that those who are charged with handling our foreign affairs while negotiating in good faith do so from a position of strength. We can all surmise what would happen if they were forced to cower in weakness before the ruthless leadership of the communist tyranny. All hope of an enduring world peace will vanish if we ever permit ourselves to sink to such a position.