Myrdal decries 'cruel weapons'

April
higher salaries expected
militarism, Myrdal said, "would in a World of Power Politics.
are becoming increasingly militarized and has gone beyond the bounds of reason."
Myrdal told an MIT audience last week. "The world we live in is becoming increasingly militarized and has gone beyond the bounds of reason."

The radical cure to spreading militarianism, Myrdal said, "would be surgical: eliminate all military forces except for a minimum employed as police or border forces." Such a cure, however, is "elusive and politically futile." Myrdal characterized the present disarmament talks as "dismal failures." "Not one weapon has been dismantled, Weapon-makers who should be dismantling are increasing their capability to ever newer heights," she said.

Myrdal said that she saw two means whereby disarmament could still be possible: the setting of individual weapons bans by the countries of a specific region of the world; and "combining our current striving towards disarmament with the work done by humanitarians in the position from the point of view of disarmament, we can slip over some of the philosophical stumbling blocks that occur."

Myrdal stated that precedent for limiting weapons which are "excessively cruel" already exist.

The only legal object of war is "the protection of the rights of states and the protection of human beings from excessive cruelty or death." Such a cure, however, is "not one weapon has been dismantled, Weapon-makers who should be dismantling are increasing their capability to ever newer heights," she said.

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