

ROLE OF NON NUCLEAR-POWERS

"I suggest that the responsibility of all other nations, including Canada, is to make clear to the nuclear powers that the people of the world demand an end to this terrible threat that hangs over them and demand that disarmament negotiations be resumed forthwith. In other words, the non-nuclear powers must take the lead in mobilizing world opinion.

"These nuclear powers are all members of the 10-Nation Committee. It has not been disbanded and could resume meetings next week. Furthermore, it could work out a disarmament agreement if all the nuclear powers had the will to reach that objective.

"There is no excuse for delay. The situation will not be improved by waiting for a debate in the UN General Assembly or for the American election or for a new administration in Washington. To wait for any of these means a delay of months -- with the task of reaching agreement growing steadily more difficult, as more harsh words are uttered by each side. After the delay, there would still have to be negotiations.

"In these days, we are witnessing great accomplishments by the UN. I refer to what has been done and is still being done in the Congo. This world organization has taken a great step forward. If the members of this Disarmament Commission decide that the 10-Nation Committee should resume its work at once, their decision will, I believe, be respected and the UN will have taken another step forward, this time in the field of disarmament for which, after all, it has the primary responsibility."

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FALLOUT SHELTER LOANS

As announced in the House of Commons on August 5 by Mr. David J. Walker, Minister responsible for the operations of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, National Housing Loan Regulations now provide for an increase of \$500 in the maximum loan for housing for home-ownership where the proposed construction includes a fallout shelter of approved design.

The cost of fallout shelters will now be recognized in the Corporation's lending values and the loan may be increased by an amount up to \$500 over that presently permitted on housing for home-ownership.

In the case of a home-owner duplex or a home-owner semi-detached house, the loan may be increased by up to \$1,000 if a fallout shelter is being constructed in each housing unit.

A booklet entitled "Basement Fallout Shelter - Blueprint for Survival No. 2", has been published by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation at the request of the Emergency Measures Organization as a guide for use in the design of fallout shelters in new homes.

CANADA PROTESTS TO CONGO

On August 18, Prime Minister Diefenbaker sent the following telegram to Mr. Patrice Lumumba, Prime Minister of the Republic of the Congo:

"Mr. Prime Minister,

I have learned today with very grave concern that Canadian Service personnel on United Nations assignments have been molested and subjected to humiliating treatment in your country.

Yesterday, another incident occurred in which an Air Force officer and his assistant were prevented from carrying out their duties. We were then inclined to believe that what had taken place must have been due to a misunderstanding as to their identity and the nature of their mission.

The latest incident puts both occurrences in a different light and raises important questions.

As you pointed out during your recent visit to Ottawa, our two countries are already in diplomatic relations and you were hoping that because of special circumstances, co-operation between them might be increased to our mutual benefit. In view of this approach, which I sincerely welcomed, I agreed promptly to your request for facilities in recruiting bilingual experts in this country and emphasized that the Canadian Government and the Canadian people would welcome the opportunity to support any organized United Nations programme of assistance to your country.

The Canadian personnel involved in these incidents referred to in the first two paragraphs are the representatives of a Government and of a country which immediately and generously had responded to your own as well as to United Nations requests for assistance in the reorganization of your country.

Such totally unwarranted and unjustified attacks on Canadian Service personnel are of a most serious character. I expect an immediate assurance that effective measures will be taken to ensure that the forces under your control will refrain from threatening the security of Canadian personnel who proceed to your country on friendly and peaceful missions in the performance of tasks determined by the United Nations."

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VITAL STATISTICS - 1959

Record numbers of infants were born in Canada during 1959, according to figures published recently by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in its preliminary annual vital statistics report. Registrations of marriages and deaths during the year were also higher than in 1958, but the birth and marriage rates (for each 1,000 of the population) were lower, while the death rate was slightly higher.

Other noteworthy features of the year's vital statistics were: a record 339,362 per-