

developing the useful suggestions and proposals advanced in the course of this debate -- and there have been useful suggestions advanced by the different representatives who have spoken in this debate in the First Committee. It can perform such other tasks as the Disarmament Commission might assign to it. It would, of course, be a committee -- a small committee -- of the Disarmament Commission.

This would give practical effect to the responsibility of the Disarmament Commission which, as I have said, would set up the ad hoc committee and receive reports from it.

The draft resolution seeks to ensure, through the activity of the ad hoc committee, that the General Assembly's call for the earliest possible continuation of negotiations is heeded. We are trying to avoid a repetition of the situation which followed the Disarmament Commission's meeting in August when, as you know, despite a unanimous resolution calling for negotiations, no negotiations ensued.

Cause for Hope

There is some promise in recent events that efforts here and the universal desire for progress on disarmament will yet yield results. We must not be down-hearted in regard to this problem of disarmament. In his message of 9 November to President-elect Kennedy, Premier Khrushchov stated his readiness to continue efforts to solve the pressing problem of disarmament. Mr. Kennedy, for his part, has publicly reaffirmed his conviction that the achievement of controlled disarmament is a necessity to guarantee world peace. These public undertakings are heartening, very heartening, and I am sure are warmly welcomed by all members of this Committee. They should mean that the hope expressed in the second paragraph of the three-power draft resolution will be realized. The aim should be, and this our draft resolution seeks to achieve, to see that hope realized in the shortest possible time.

Minimum Immediate Objective

In the meantime the sense of urgency must be sustained, and all opportunities for useful preparatory work must be seized. That is why I appeal to all the non-nuclear nations to support the proposals submitted by Norway, Sweden and Canada. This is the time to establish effective United Nations machinery for keeping the focus of international attention squarely on the problem of disarmament and for striving to break the present dangerous deadlock for which the nuclear powers must bear the main responsibility. Unless the non-nuclear powers seek this minimum objective they will have abdicated their share of the grave responsibility and, furthermore, I suggest, will have forfeited their right to complain about the dangers of the situation or to participate in the search for a remedy.