In all the remarks we have made thus far there is implicit the conviction that space research and exploration should be for the benefit of all nations, Clearly the USA and the USSR are pre-eminent and will continue to be pre-eminent in matters of space research and exploration, but that does not mean that other nations cannot, or should not, directly or indirectly, seek to make valuable contributions. Several other nations, including Canada, have their own space programmes showing that good results can be obtained with limited resources. In particular the successful Canadian satellite programme for ionospheric research, begun five years ago and still fully active has led to the Alouette/Isis programme in which Canada and the USA co-operate very actively with agencies in Great Britain, France, Australia, Norway, Japan and India. The Thumba project in India has shown what can be accomplished by international co-operation and a number of experts will be going to Argentina soon to determine the eligibility for UN co-sponsorship of a sounding rocket launching facility at Mar del Plata.

Apart from the contribution these and all other space projects obviously make to our understanding of the universe, they also have, and may increasingly have, a profound effect upon the daily lives of all of us. For that reason, the forthcoming conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, which is to take place in Vienna from August 14 to 27, 1968, is of the greatest significance. It should give substance to the feeling that there <u>are</u> many practical benefits to be derived from space research and exploration and that by using proper methods these benefits could be widely disseminated. Sometimes it is very difficult to see the connection between sending a man to the moon and hunger, illiteracy and poverty on earth, and yet the scientific research required to do the former can produce side benefits which could be relevant to the latter problems. The importance, for instance, of improved weather forecasting by means of special weather satellites need hardly be stressed. In many areas of the world, crop failure means starvation for millions of people and often deals a crippling blow to the economy of a developing country. Better methods of weather forecasting can improve the efficiency of agriculture, which is one of the most pressing problems that faces the world today. Communications satellites will also no doubt increasingly be able to play a key role in the promotion of universal education.

There is clearly much to be done in the field of education and training in the peaceful uses of outer space and we would like to suggest that the forthcoming conference should provide a unique opportunity for developing countries