

Unfortunately, all five nuclear powers either abstained on or (in the case of China) opposed this resolution.

This latter aspect of the Canadian resolution (c) was a continuation of efforts in the CCD in 1971 to focus attention on the need, in view of the protracted delay in achieving an underground test ban, for the two major powers to adopt without delay reciprocal measures of restraint to reduce their testing. In particular, the Canadian proposal in the CCD, as elaborated in 1971, called on both of the two major testing powers to undertake, perhaps on the basis of a bilateral understanding between themselves, some or all of the following steps:

- (a) as an earnest of their good faith in working towards an underground test ban, to begin as soon as possible to scale down their underground test programs, starting with higher-yield testing and working downwards;
- (b) to announce in advance the details of underground nuclear explosions so that existing seismological monitoring facilities could be more easily tested and improved;
- (c) to take special measures of protection against possible environmental risks connected with testing; and
- (d) to co-operate in the use, development and improvement of facilities for the monitoring of underground tests by seismological means to the maximum extent possible.

Chemical and Biological Weapons (CBW)

The twenty-sixth session of the General Assembly endorsed with virtual unanimity the draft treaty prohibiting the production, stockpiling and development of biological and toxin weapons, which had been worked out in the CCD in 1971. This treaty, which is designed to supplement the ban on the use of bacteriological weapons in war contained in the Geneva Protocol of 1925, is expected to be opened for signature and ratification in 1972. The draft biological weapons treaty, which was developed by the United States and the Soviet Union in the CCD, taking into account suggestions made by Canada and other members, was based in large measure on an earlier draft biological-weapons treaty submitted by Britain, which Canada has strongly supported. Accordingly, Canada joined in co-sponsoring the text of the agreement in the CCD and the resolution commending it in the General Assembly.

Still lacking is a treaty to prohibit the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons, whose use in warfare is also banned by the Geneva Protocol. Agreement on such a treaty has been much more difficult to reach because, unlike biological weapons, chemical weapons pose an intractable problem in view of the difficulty of devising any adequate but non-intrusive means of verification.

During 1971, the Division continued the task of contributing to the detailed studies on MBFR undertaken in NATO. This role was filled in close co-operation with the Department of National Defence and in consultation with the Defence Relations Division.