

# STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

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## AN APPALLING ANSWER TO UN PROTESTS

A Statement by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Howard Green, in the First Committee of the United Nations on October 20, 1961.

I should like to make a very short statement in support of the stand taken by the representatives of Denmark, Japan and Pakistan. In doing so may I first point out that Draft Resolution A/C.1/L.288 is not in competition with the Indian draft resolution at all. As a matter of fact, we in Canada intend to support that Indian draft resolution, and we may have something to say in regard to it in due course. But the United Nations is faced now with a statement that a 50-megaton bomb will be discharged before the end of the month. It may be discharged over this weekend. We have the definite statement from the leader of this great nation, the Soviet Union, that this bomb will be set off before the end of October. May I submit that that is ample reason why the United Nations should deal with this question promptly? If we fail to deal with a question of this magnitude, what point is there in dealing with a great many small issues?

I suggest that this is probably the greatest challenge the United Nations has ever faced. The announcement by Chairman Khrushchov of this intention to explode a 50-megaton bomb, I am sure, brings home to each one of us in this room today the urgency of the matter with which we are concerned in the debate. Even before this latest announcement, the breakdown of the moratorium early in September had caused world-wide concern, which has led to the introduction of draft resolutions in this Committee calling for an end to nuclear testing, including of course the Indian draft resolution. But now we have learnt that this Soviet test series is to be climaxed by the explosion of the 50-megaton thermonuclear bomb. It has already been pointed out, but I repeat, that, when this bomb is added to the current Soviet test series, the result will be a fall-out yield equal to at least two-thirds of that from all the tests conducted by all the nuclear powers from 1945 to 1958, when the voluntary moratorium began.

### Soviet Defiance of World Opinion

This surely is an appalling answer to the expressions of alarm and anxiety which have been voiced in the United Nations General Assembly