

India, Mr. Krishna Menon, and those who worked closely with him in their zealous effort to effect a compromise between the eastern and western positions on principles. They very nearly succeeded in formulating an agreed basis for future negotiations. Certainly we should take care to ensure that it will be possible to go forward from the excellent start they have made in this critical area.

There remains, Mr. Chairman, the third decision to which I have alluded: namely, one which would provide a means for focussing attention on disarmament and the widespread concern in the United Nations for early progress. The Committee has had an opportunity of studying the changes which have been incorporated in the resolution tabled by the Delegation of Canada and eighteen other countries, which appears in Document 255 Rev. 1. It will have been noted that the resolution, alone of all those which have been tabled in this Committee, seeks to deal directly with the problem of bringing about further negotiations. In its provisions for continuing United Nations machinery to assist in achieving that end, added emphasis has been placed on the role of the Disarmament Commission. Moreover, its provisions for the continuing study of the various proposals which have been submitted at this session have also been greatly strengthened. It seeks to enable the middle and small Powers to make a concerted contribution to the urgent task of beginning disarmament negotiations.

Resolution L.255 Rev. 1 has been criticized on the grounds that it is designed to create the impression that something will be done about disarmament, whereas in fact nothing will be done. The operative paragraphs of the resolution clearly show that this criticism is unfounded.

Paragraph 2 expresses the hope that in view of the urgency and importance of disarmament, every effort will be made for the continuation of negotiations among the Powers principally concerned. This is an unequivocal statement that something ought to be done. We realize that the continuation of negotiations will require the agreement of the Powers principally concerned; we also realize that owing to well-known circumstances not all of the principal Powers will for a month or so be in a position to engage in definitive negotiations on disarmament. Nevertheless, we believe that it is right and necessary