

members of that Commission to consult together in an attempt to break the deadlock which persists in that Commission and which, in our opinion, is primarily due to the attitude adopted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in respect of what constitutes rigid and adequate control. This matter, will, I think, be discussed before long in the General Assembly, when the issue can be squarely faced. The point, I think, to note here is that the problem which confronts the world regarding atomic energy is not merely one of hearing what governments have to say regarding atomic weapons but of being able to check the accuracy of such information and, above all, of accepting methods for effectively preventing the possession or use of such dread weapons by bringing atomic energy under international control. The Soviet Union, China, France, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Canada have been consulting together on this matter, and the results of these discussions are likely to be made known shortly to the General Assembly. It would not, I think, be wise for the Security Council to try to by-pass these consultations by taking a hasty and patently inadequate decision in this field in the absence of complete information regarding the results of these consultations.

For these reasons, the Canadian delegation supports the first French resolution, which has been explained to us again this afternoon, calling for the Security Council to approve the working paper submitted to us by the Commission for Conventional Armaments and which provides for a carefully worked out system for the census and verification of national armaments and armed forces.

The Canadian delegation will not be in a position to support the Soviet Union resolution, since it is, as I have attempted to show, dangerously misleading and inadequate. We will, however, be glad to support the second French resolution, which amounts to a re-statement of the Soviet Union resolution in an improved form, making provision that the information submitted by governments shall be effectively substantiated, and recognizing that the essence of the problem of disarmament is effective international control.

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