

I noticed with regret, however, that Mr. Molotov, in his statement in the General Debate on September 23, seems to have misunderstood a comment made by Mr. Dulles the day before on the inevitable connection between a sense of insecurity and fear, on the one hand, and a possibility of disarmament on the other. I would recall to the Soviet delegation that a thought very similar to that expressed by Mr. Dulles occurs in the proposals made by the U.S.S.R. on May 10 of this year in the United Nations Disarmament Sub-Committee.

In the Soviet proposals of May 10, which have now been circulated to all members as a General Assembly document, we read the following paragraph:

"On the other hand, the cessation of the 'cold war' between States would help to bring about a relaxation of international tension, the creation of the necessary confidence in international relations, the removal of the threat of a new war and the establishment of conditions permitting a peaceful and tranquil life of the peoples. This, in turn, would create the requisite conditions for the execution of a broad disarmament programme, with the establishment of the necessary international control over its implementation."

And so I say to the Soviet Delegation, is it not clear from this paragraph that the U.S.S.R. also sees the inevitable connection between insecurity and threat of war and the prospects of disarmament?

We think that the President's plan as well as the other proposals made at Geneva are not necessarily inconsistent with the proposals which have already been advanced in the Sub-Committee and on which, after long and difficult negotiations, some degree of general agreement may be in sight. None of these proposals, in our view, need be mutually exclusive. There is no reason why they might not, all of them, -- modified perhaps, become steps along the road to disarmament.

And as we see it, it is essential that we start quickly on this road, admitting that there must inevitably be experimental phases while we search for the trust and confidence without which disarmament would be impossible. This search will not be successful unless prior agreement on a system of control has been worked out. This will require an enormous amount of careful study and discussion by our technical and constitutional experts before it can be formulated. It would be unwise, therefore, to expect too early decisions.

I have been the representative of my Government in the Sub-Committee talks since their resumption in New York on August 29th and I would not want to conclude my comments on this subject without a reference to the friendly and co-operative spirit exhibited by all delegations on the Sub-Committee in their relations with one another and in their work on the Committee. It would seem that the members of the Sub-Committee have all seriously determined to reach a practicable and mutually acceptable agreement on disarmament.

Atomic Energy

Atomic energy seems to come more and more to the front in our discussions. This is not surprising. A revolutionary source of energy has been tapped and the consequences are yet incalculable. The new power at the disposal of man holds the promise of a changed and perhaps easier relationship with his surroundings and the implications of this extend into almost every field.