

Nuclear Weapons and Disarmament

The Government's position on the relation between nuclear-weapons policy on the one hand and disarmament on the other was defined in the following terms by the Prime Minister in a speech before the Canadian Club of Ottawa on November 24:

We have taken the stand that no decision will be required while progress towards disarmament continues. To do otherwise would be inconsistent. When and if such weapons are required, then we shall have to take the responsibility. The future of Canadians requires that we make that decision which, in the light of the best information we have, represents the maximum security for our country. We have made it equally clear that we shall not, in any event, consider nuclear weapons until, as a sovereign nation, we have equality in control—a joint control. In other words this problem is not one requiring immediate decision.

The course to be taken will be determined in the light of what happens in connection with disarmament and in the light of events as they transpire and develop in the months ahead.