

formal negotiations have indeed begun involving all three of the nuclear weapon-states upon which the onus rests, as original parties to the Partial Test Ban Treaty of 1963, to undertake such negotiations.

The views of Canada on this question have been repeated time and again. We have expressed the view that in this area it was incumbent upon the two major nuclear powers to set an example by agreeing to end their nuclear tests for a determined period of adequate duration, even if other nuclear-weapon powers did not immediately join such an agreement.

The recent announcement by Foreign Minister Gromyko at this session that the Soviet Union was now prepared to envisage stopping tests along with the United States and Britain represents a welcome development in the Soviet position, particularly so far as it means that, as we have long advocated, progress on a definitive cessation of tests need not await participation by all nuclear-weapon states.

There are clearly difficult hurdles to be surmounted, involving problems such as verification, the scope of the agreement and the conditions for its entry into force. The pursuit of solutions to these problems

will require time. In the seismological working group of the Geneva Disarmament Conference, Canada and other countries have already invested a great deal of technical effort concerning the contribution international co-operation in the exchange of seismological data can make to easing the verification problem. Canada welcomes the fact that the principle of such a data-exchange seems to be accepted by the participants in the negotiations. Moreover, we have already stated in the Geneva Conference that, in view of the lack of any convincing way of ensuring that so-called peaceful nuclear explosions do not provide weapons-related benefits, a comprehensive test ban should prohibit all nuclear explosions. Surely the utility of peaceful nuclear explosions is sufficiently doubtful that such uses of nuclear-explosive energy should not be allowed to impede the achievement of an objective to which this Assembly has already assigned the highest priority.

We trust that this essential trilateral stage of the negotiations will be carried out successfully within a reasonable period so that the Geneva Disarmament Conference will be able to begin the multilateral phase of negotiation of a treaty. We believe that such a treaty

should be adhered to on the broadest possible basis in order to address the proliferation problem in both its vertical and horizontal aspects. . . .

I have tried to identify some of the most important opportunities that at last seem to be unfolding before us, particularly in the areas of strategic-arms limitations, a comprehensive test ban . . . Because it relates, inter alia, to fundamental questions of nations' perceptions of their security interests, arms control and disarmament is a difficult uphill task and the past has been fraught with frustration. There are, however, grave and pressing dangers inherent in a failure to make real progress. Moreover, other more constructive demands on the resources of all of us make clear that our efforts must be pursued with renewed determination.

It is right that we make every effort to consider as analytically and objectively as possible the issues I have described. Emotion will not help us to understand properly the intricacies and the magnitude of the challenge of disarmament or to devise effective means to deal with them. Yet we must never lose sight of the underlying supreme task—to ensure the security of us all by reducing, and ultimately eliminating, the risk of war . . . ●

Canadian Heads World Food Program

Garson Nathaniel Vogel, who was Chief Commissioner of the Canadian Wheat Board for six years, took over as Executive Director of the United Nations World Food Program on 1 October for a five-year term. As the former head of the organization which handles Canada's Rs. 2840 crores-a-year grain sales, Mr. Vogel brings to the Program the benefits of a unique business experience of direct relevance to its work.

Mr. Vogel, who is 59, has had a distinguished career in business and government since graduating from the University of Manitoba, in Winnipeg in 1939 with a degree in history and economics. In 1946 he completed a further degree in law before going on to hold several important positions in the private and public sectors of Canada's grain industry. He became Assistant Chief Commissioner of the Canadian Wheat Board in 1969 and its Chief Commissioner two years

later.

The WFP was established jointly by the United Nations and the Food and Agriculture Organization on an experimental basis in 1963. By the end of 1965 it was decided that the progress the Program had achieved warranted establishment on a regular and continuing basis for as long as multilateral aid was found to be feasible and desirable. The Program provides food at the request of governments to meet emergency needs and to help carry out economic and social projects. These projects include feeding expectant and nursing mothers and school children, the resettlement of groups and communities and the reclamation of land. One of the criteria for WFP aid to projects is that the recipient country can continue them after the aid has ceased.

At the eighth-pledging conference to the WFP held in New York February 21,



Executive Director of the WFP, Canadian Garson N. Vogel, will be visiting India in March 1978.

1978 Canada has pledged for 1979–1980 C\$170 million (Rs. 119 crores) in commodity assistance and C\$20 million (Rs. 14 crores) in cash for the Program's activities. ●