

If you are really anxious about development in the Arctic and if you wish to eliminate the possibility of surprise attack across the polar regions, I find it hard to understand why you should cast aside a proposal designed to increase mutual security in that area.

(The suggestion had been made earlier by Canada and rejected.)

Let me repeat here, Mr. Chairman, that we stand by our offer to make available for international inspection or control any part of our territory, in exchange for a comparable concession on your part. I would hope that you would accept some arrangement along these lines not only as an indication of our good faith but as part of a first, experimental step in building a system of international safeguards against surprise attack. When there is, by your own admission, a danger of nuclear war breaking out by accident or miscalculation, it is difficult for Canadians to comprehend your refusal to engage even in technical discussions intended to explore the feasibility of an international system of control.

I am sure all Members of the House will agree with the position of the Government, which is that Canada will do everything she possibly can to bring about disarmament under proper controls and with a system of inspection.

I think too that this incident, in addition to showing the need for a disarmament agreement, indicates the importance of the summit meeting which is to be held on May 16. There has been some suggestion in the press that perhaps now there would not be any summit meeting. I submit that it is all the more important now that this has happened that the summit meeting should go ahead. Mind you, it is not going to be any easier because of the increase in tension caused by this incident, but we hope there will be no suggestion whatever that the summit meeting should be cancelled. We think there is even a bigger job to be done by these four heads of government at the summit meeting which is due to commence just a week from today.

. . . Finally I should like to make it quite clear that the Canadian Government was not aware of these activities, and evidently the United States Government was not very much aware of them either. I have here a statement which was issued by the State Department of the United States on May 7, and it contains this sentence:

As a result of the inquiry ordered by the President, it has been established that, in so far as the authorities in Washington are concerned, there was no authorization for any such flight as described by Mr. Khrushchov.

. . . I am sure the House will join with me in expressing the hope that now that both sides have seen just how serious incidents of this kind can be and just how little it might take to bring a world disaster, the nations of both sides will get down to business and really try to work out an agreement on disarmament.

### Final Communiqué

The North Atlantic Council held its spring Ministerial Meeting in Istanbul from May 2nd-4th.

2. The Council took stock of the situation on the eve of the summit meeting. The results of its exchange of views may be summarized as follows:

- (a) The Council welcomes the prospect of negotiations with the Soviet Union, and hopes that they will lead to improved international relations. The unity of the alliance is a condition of progress towards this end.