

in the important aspects of international relations. There was a striking determination to develop still further the habit of consultation which is an essential element in maintaining the cohesion and unity of the Alliance.

Canada's Views

The Canadian delegation stressed the importance of the habit of consultation, the neighbourly frame of mind, and the desirability of member nations refraining from adopting firm policy stands or making major political announcements on questions that affect the interests of their NATO partners until they have consulted with them.

The Canadian Delegation also stressed that particular attention should be given to the implementation of Article II of the Treaty—with particular reference to the desirability of Members of the Alliance bearing in mind the needs of the underdeveloped countries. The Prime Minister pointed out that "the free world would not accept a situation where half mankind is well fed and the other half is not. Such a situation merely invites communist mischief". In this connection the Prime Minister suggested that something in the nature of a NATO Food Bank might be created to make food available to countries which are in need and which are in danger of being overrun or subverted by the Soviet Union.

The Declaration and Communiqué which were issued at the end of the Meeting contain a full account of the collective views and decisions of the Heads of Government and are worthy of careful reading. The texts of these documents are printed below.

In summing up the results of the meeting in the House on December 21, the Prime Minister said:

"The Alliance, I believe, has made a substantive contribution to peace, not only by reaffirming its purely defensive character—that was underlined and re-emphasized over and over again—but also by leaving the door open to meaningful disarmament negotiations. Decisions have been taken which, through a closer integration of our individual forces, will result in the strengthening of the Alliance and I believe will secure greater security for our peoples. The machinery of NATO will be adapted to make possible the full use of resources of each and all member nations. Above everything else, a new impetus has been given at the highest possible level, and a revised vision to our Alliance which will help us to translate its aims and objectives into practical achievements . . . This conference has taken striking decisions that affect the military posture, the scientific disposition and a new imaginative economic approach that have both domestic and external application to all the 15 countries. We have extended the range of our concern where economies and social matters are concerned to take in underdeveloped countries outside and beyond our Alliance."

Declaration and Communiqué

Declaration

We, the representatives of 15 nations of the North Atlantic Alliance, believing in the sanctity of those human rights which are guaranteed to all men of free nations by their constitutions, laws and customs, rededicate ourselves and our nations to the principles and purposes of the North Atlantic Treaty. This Treaty has been in effect for nearly nine years. It was founded to protect the right of our peoples to live in peace and freedom under governments of their own choice. It has succeeded in protecting this right. Building on our experience and confident in the success already obtained, we have agreed together upon means to give added strength to our Alliance.

At the end of the Second World War, the armies of the West were largely disbanded. The Soviet Union did not demobilize. Its expansionist policy impelled us to establish our Treaty and to build up our armed forces.