

control of missiles and outer space objects showed that there was general agreement on the need for some action to be taken in this field, but no specific conclusions were reached. Discussions of the question of zones of limitation and inspection was not pursued in any detail.

On April 30, at the conclusion of the first round of discussions, the Soviet representative, stating that his Government had taken note of the reluctance of the Western Powers to conclude a comprehensive disarmament agreement, tabled a new plan for partial disarmament.⁽²⁾ The major features of this new presentation were: (1) reduction of the forces of the major powers in two stages down to 1-1.5 million men for the United States, the Soviet Union and China, and 650,000 for France and the United Kingdom; (2) reduction of conventional armaments by 15 per cent in the first stage; (3) an immediate cessation or temporary suspension of nuclear tests independently of agreement on other aspects of disarmament; (4) a renunciation of the use of nuclear weapons to take effect simultaneously with an agreement on conventional disarmament, together with the assumption of an obligation to reach agreement on complete prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons; (5) progressive liquidation of foreign bases; (6) a one-third reduction of United States, United Kingdom, French and Soviet forces in Germany, and a considerable reduction of their forces in the NATO and Warsaw Pact areas; (7) control posts at ports, railway junctions and highways (but not airfields) in the first stage in a defined area which would include the territories of the NATO and Warsaw Pact countries, except that in the case of the United States and Soviet Union the areas affected would be limited; control posts at airfields would be installed only at the second stage and would be related to an agreement on measures for the complete prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons; and (8) aerial inspection in a zone in central Europe, and in an Asian-North American zone comprising approximately equal areas in Eastern Siberia and the United States west of the Mississippi.

During the period between the presentation of the Soviet plan and the tabling of the comprehensive Western reply, the Sub-Committee negotiations for the most part took the form of an exposition of the broad principles of the Western position, and the presentation of Four-Power and individually sponsored proposals on questions such as nuclear test explosions and aerial inspection, together with a discussion of the latest Soviet proposals.

On May 6 the United Kingdom representative tabled a memorandum proposing measures for dealing with nuclear tests in three stages: (1) advance registration of tests as proposed by Canada, Japan and Norway at the General Assembly, plus limited international observation; (2) the formation of a group of experts to consider possible methods of limitation and control of tests; and (3) cessation of tests to follow the prohibition of production of fissionable material for weapons purposes as part of a general disarmament agreement.

On June 14, after it had previously been made public by Messrs. Bulganin and Krushchev during their visit to Finland, the Soviet representative submitted a proposal for the suspension of nuclear tests.⁽³⁾ The Soviet plan called for a two- or three-year moratorium on tests under the supervision of an international commission answerable to the Security Council and the General Assembly,

⁽²⁾ Text at Annex II.

⁽³⁾ Text at Annex III.