

CANADIAN BACKGROUND PARAGRAPHS

The 1975 conference to review the Non-Proliferation Treaty is one in which powers which have signed, or signed and ratified, the treaty, will be taking part directly. India is not in either of these categories but we would hope the Indian government would find a way to make a major contribution to the international discussion of long-term solutions to the problem of all forms of nuclear proliferation.

The Canadian side understood that the Indians expected that it would take some time to evaluate the results of their recent test and that no schedule for further tests could be arranged before that evaluation was completed. The Canadian side observed that a possible conclusion could be that peaceful nuclear explosions were not economically viable, and that further tests would not be useful. The Canadian side expressed the hope that India would contribute to the success of international efforts to strengthen and improve the non-proliferation prospects by refraining from any further testing at least until after the conference to review the Non-Proliferation Treaty has been held and governments have had an opportunity to examine and act upon its recommendations.