

countries have taken this step is of special significance in limiting quantitatively the proliferation of these weapons. In this connection it should be noted that the Federal Republic of Germany, in signing the partial test ban, has provided further evidence of its intention to adhere to its policy of refraining from manufacturing nuclear weapons. On September 25, in plenary session, the distinguished Foreign Minister of Denmark refuted the unjustified allegations which continue to be made against the Federal Republic of Germany. We subscribe to his remarks.

CANADIAN NUCLEAR POLICY

I am glad to place on record our assurance that Canada has no intention of departing from its established policy of refraining from conducting such weapons tests in any environment. We hope that others in a similar situation will also maintain their present policies. Canada is one of the countries that have the technical and industrial capacity to manufacture nuclear weapons. Many years ago we renounced any intention to do so, and we have never deviated from that policy. In the United Nations and in the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Conference, Canada has been in the forefront of countries seeking an agreement to end all nuclear tests, and we were for this reason one of the first to sign the test-ban agreement of August 5.

We welcome the resolution prohibiting the orbiting of weapons of mass destruction in outer space. Canada has for some time been urging agreement in this field. In the Eighteen-Nation Conference, on March 27, 1962, two weeks after its inception, Canada proposed a declaration on this subject. The resolution banning weapons in outer space is welcomed by the world for several reasons: First, like the limited test-ban treaty, it will help to put a brake on the development and refinement of new weapons; second, the resolution is not confined to the prohibition of orbiting nuclear weapons, but includes other types of mass-destruction weapons as well; finally, it demonstrates the fact that, in the new horizons of man's activity opened by science, the major powers are hereby giving further proof of their intention to confine their activities to peaceful ends.

PEKING PROPOSAL DISCUSSED

We hope also that all countries will become parties to the limited test ban. Canada has noted the proposal of Peking of July 31 for a conference of heads of governments of all countries to discuss the total prohibition and destruction of nuclear weapons. We welcome this evidence of Peking's interest in the elimination of nuclear arms and we hope this will lead them to the conclusion that universal acceptance of the partial test-ban agreement would be an important first step in that direction. We hope that Peking will come to share the view that the question of nuclear disarmament, while a most important feature of a disarmament agreement, cannot be considered in isolation from the elimination of other types of weapons and the reduction of armed forces. The distinguished representative of India, Madame

Pandit, explained in this Committee just a few days ago why this is so. The Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Conference is now engaged in the task of working out a balanced disarmament agreement designed to have world-wide application. It is realized that a treaty on general and complete disarmament must embrace all nations - or at least all major military nations. We hope that Peking will eventually support the important efforts now being made to develop a programme for disarmament and will appreciate that to call a world conference of heads of governments to consider disarmament is, at this stage, premature . . .

EIGHTEEN-NATION DISARMAMENT COMMITTEE

In the opinion of the Canadian Government, the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Conference is the most effective forum for disarmament negotiations yet established and deserves strong support from all United Nations members. It would be wrong to underestimate the role of the Geneva Conference, both past and future, in helping to reach agreements among the major powers. In the case of the accords on the partial test ban and the direct communications link, it is significant that proposals on these subjects similar to the agreements adopted have been considered in the Eighteen-Nation Committee well in advance of the time when the agreements were reached. The same is true with regard to the prohibition of orbiting weapons of mass destruction in outer space, which appeared as an item on the Conference's list of collateral measures. This shows, in our view, the special value of the Eighteen-Nation Committee as a forum in which the two main sides, and all the other participants as well, can submit their ideas, allow them to be considered, studied and developed so as to provide a basis for agreement when the time becomes ripe for an accord to be adopted. The reaction of the members of the Eighteen-Nation Conference has also been of assistance to the major powers in developing their proposals for a total disarmament programme. The constructive contributions of the eight non-aligned countries greatly facilitated these achievements . . .

The Eighteen-Nation Committee will be reconvening in circumstances which can make its work fruitful far beyond the general expectation of only some months ago. All of us at this session of the United Nations have been struck by the atmosphere of harmony and co-operation that has characterized our discussions so far in the nuclear tests and disarmament field. All of us have been struck also by the relative harmony which is reported to have prevailed during the talks here of the foreign ministers of the United States, the United Kingdom and the Soviet Union. This new spirit presents the Geneva Conference with a unique opportunity to find new areas of agreement on measures to reduce international tensions. It also places on the Conference the responsibility to seize the opportunities presented by the atmosphere of *détente* in order to reach agreements involving physical measures of disarmament.

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