

cuss disarmament in any body except a special session of the General Assembly convened at a Heads of Government level. These views were reflected in some of the resolutions put forward in the First Committee. The desire of African and Asian regions to be kept outside of the arms race was another significant element in draft resolutions.

For its part, Canada, working first in close co-operation with the Delegations of Sweden and Norway, developed a resolution intending to focus world attention on the great need for an early resumption of negotiations. The Canadian proposal also sought to give the middle and smaller nations a more meaningful voice in the international consideration of disarmament. It was suggested that this could be accomplished by giving a more active role to the Disarmament Commission of the United Nations, particularly if it were to appoint *ad hoc* committees to deal with various aspects of the complex questions of disarmament. Finally the draft resolution incorporated the Canadian proposal that any negotiating forum should consider the appointment of an impartial chairman, whose responsibility it would be to see to the efficient conduct of the meetings. These suggestions, although coolly received by the Soviet Union, gained a wide measure of support and eighteen countries ultimately joined with Canada in co-sponsoring the draft resolution.

As the time for the Christmas recess in the General Assembly drew near, it became apparent that most delegations were reluctant to vote on controversial disarmament resolutions not carrying the support of the two major powers concerned. This reluctance extended even to proposals which were largely procedural in purpose. In the end the bulk of the draft resolutions were held over for decision at the resumed session.

The Assembly, however, did take decisions on three relatively non-controversial resolutions. Two of these sought to reinforce the current moratorium on nuclear weapons testing. A third, initiated by the Irish Delegation, aimed at temporary measures to limit the spread of nuclear weapons at the independent disposal of national governments. Canada supported all three resolutions. In explanation of his vote in favour of the Irish proposal the Chairman of the Canadian Delegation said: "We have stressed over and over again the necessity of resuming negotiations in disarmament and we think that the threat of the further spread of nuclear weapons is one of the most important reasons for getting on with these negotiations. If no steps are taken toward disarmament—if, indeed, we do not have even a beginning to serious negotiations on this subject—no country will be content to sit by in the hope that goodwill alone will prevent the widespread dissemination of these weapons. For our part, I must say quite clearly that Canada would not be able to accept this state of affairs for very long. We have worked and we will continue to work with every resource at our command to achieve