

Since the resumption of the disarmament talks on July 27 there has been continuous and intensive discussion among the Western representatives at Geneva. These discussions have resulted in the new proposals for a non-proliferation treaty put forward by the United States representative today.

It is gratifying that a number of ideas which the Canadian government has been advancing over the past several months are reflected in the draft Treaty which has now been tabled. The central one is a non-dissemination formula based on the Irish Resolution of 1961 which called upon all states to conclude an international agreement to refrain from relinquishing control of nuclear weapons and from transmitting information necessary for their manufacture, with reciprocal obligations for the non-nuclear powers. There is also a provision for cooperation by signatories in applying international safeguards to all their peaceful nuclear activities.

Progress in the field of disarmament is a major policy objective of the Canadian government. I am encouraged that it has been possible to reach agreement among the Western countries at Geneva on proposals which offer the prospect of some genuine advance in the vital field of non-proliferation. Clearly general agreement on an international treaty is not yet in sight. Long and difficult negotiations still lie ahead. However, Canada is prepared to join with other nations in a determined effort to achieve progress with a sense of the urgency which this important issue demands. During recent days there have been some possible indications of greater flexibility in the attitude of the Soviet Union towards negotiation of a non-proliferation treaty. It is to be hoped that these indications will be translated into positive achievements. We now appeal