

ballistic missiles, which represent the prime modern strategic weapon of the great powers, - if they were to be used - would pass through outer space on their way to a target.

I think it is important to keep this fact in mind so as to enable us to form a realistic judgment of the nature of the problem. I do not need to state in this assembly that the Canadian Government favours disarmament in outer space as well as on earth. Many will be aware that the Canadian Minister of External Affairs was the first to raise in the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Conference on March 27, 1962, just two weeks after the opening of the Conference, the possibility of states undertaking not to orbit weapons of mass destruction in outer space. The Canadian Government takes satisfaction from the unanimous passage at this very session of Resolution 1884 which has finally given effect to this proposal. Moreover, we all favour the Treaty signed in Moscow on August 5, 1963, which, among other things, banned the testing of nuclear weapons in outer space. These are important disarmament measures which have significantly reduced the possible means for using outer space for military purposes. More still remains to be done. But in the view of my Delegation it is important to recognize that, insofar as intercontinental ballistic missiles are concerned, it is not a question of keeping outer space free from such weapons. The problem we face is to negotiate in the appropriate forum a disarmament agreement which could have the result of limiting outer space to peaceful uses only.

If I do not mention other arrangements for achieving cooperation in outer space through the United Nations, it is because I believe that they have been adequately treated in statements already made in this Committee. I wish to mention