

The first general statement made in this resolution is an affirmation of support for the principles which have been defined in the majority reports of the Atomic Energy Commission for the control of atomic energy and the prohibition of atomic weapons. When the Atomic Energy Commission began its work, no one knew whether or not it would be possible even for two states to agree upon principles for this purpose. After the most careful and expert process of consideration, to which fourteen states have given their concurrence, it has been found that an international system for control and development of atomic energy and the elimination of atomic warfare is indeed possible. Only those individuals who have taken part in the long and difficult task of working out this plan fully realize how great an achievement in human co-operation this represents. Everyone knows that the plan is of necessity complicated. Everyone also knows that it will involve considerations of national sovereignty, and that activities heretofore regarded as being within the national sphere will in future have to be exercised through international association. It is most surprising to hear this project for the co-operative international development of one of the world's great potential resources being attacked, in the interests of safeguarding the private rights of one nation, by a state such as the USSR which claims to be inspired by principles of action for the general good.

In place of the majority resolution, the representative of the USSR proposes a programme of specious and deceptive simplicity. The Soviet resolution calls for the signing of simultaneous conventions prohibiting atomic warfare and establishing international control of atomic energy. What the USSR fails to state is that the process of producing the materials which release atomic energy is practically complete before the first step is taken towards assembling an atomic bomb. What they are asking us to do is to start by controlling the last simple detail of the process, before they have given us any adequate assurance that they will co-operate with us in controlling the earlier essential steps. On the contrary, through the long debates which have taken place in the Atomic Energy Commission, in which every effort has been made to secure their assurances on this point, they have demonstrated clearly time and again that they have no present intention of co-operating in any reasonable plan for controlling the production, refining, and further processing of uranium and thorium, without which the control of its assembly into a bomb is without meaning. This is the deception that lies in the Soviet resolution. It is a deception which, as I have said, is repeated and reiterated time after time and which must be denied every time it is put forward. Let me say again, Mr. Chairman, that it is only by co-operating fully in the control of the production of uranium and thorium and of their processing from the time these substances are taken from the ground to the time that they are used up by the release of their energy for peaceful purposes that the USSR can really contribute to the solution of this problem. The facts of atomic energy are such that nothing short of a complete solution is any solution at all. The only answer lies in a co-operative association which is universal, and which the work of the Atomic Energy Commission has shown to be technically feasible and possible.

The Canadian delegation has been reassured by the clear perception shown in this Committee of the basic truth that I have just asserted. The principles which underlie this truth have been enunciated in the first two reports of the Atomic Energy Commission. They are affirmed in the first part of the resolution that is before us. The only two delegations which have dissented from them in the meetings of the sub-committee were the USSR and the Soviet Ukraine. Many other delegations in our earlier debate, before the sub-committee was appointed, have indicated their clear understanding of these principles and their support for them. In this connection, I was particularly impressed with the precise, lucid, and forceful statement in which Colonel Hodgson my Australian colleague, made clear on October 6 the support of the Australian Government for the principles to which I have referred. The Canadian delegation, Mr. Chairman, is glad that an opportunity is now given to an even greater number of states to show their support for these principles, which are stated in the first part of this resolution. In