

regarded as essentially propaganda. These are, first, the plan for prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons. While stocks of nuclear weapons remain, an agreement not to use them is significant only until one government changes its mind. If we had the faith in one another which would allow such an agreement, we would also have no arms race and no need for a Disarmament Commission. The second of these uncontrollable, and therefore propagandist, Soviet proposals is for the destruction of all stocks of nuclear weapons, and their complete elimination from the armaments of states. As the Soviet Government long ago admitted (in its paper of May 10, 1955) no system of inspection could guarantee the elimination of all stocks of nuclear weapons except with a very wide margin of error. This agreement, too, would therefore rest on trust alone. That at present cannot be mutually accorded.

I have, in conclusion, some few remarks to make on the matter of tests of nuclear weapons. The U.S.S.R. has recently proposed that the subject of tests should be taken up separately from other elements of the disarmament question. I would ask members of the Commission to consider very carefully the proposals on suspension of tests in our working paper. You will see that the suspension of tests would commence at the very beginning, providing only that we have set up the necessary inspection, which is also provided for in the latest Soviet proposal. No other part of this first stage of disarmament would need to go into effect before the date of the suspension of tests. If the inspection to ensure compliance with the suspension of tests is satisfactory the suspension would run for 24 months. Tests would still be suspended beyond this two year period provided parties to the agreement during these two years have worked out and put into effect the scheme for cessation of production of fissionable materials for weapons purposes. Surely it is important to link in this way the suspension of tests with the fundamentally much more important question of ending the arms race in nuclear weapons; and surely it is also a reasonable and moderate proposal which permits the suspension of tests to take effect up to two years before the actual beginning of the plan for ending the arms race in nuclear weapons. As M. Moch pointed out on August 29 in the Sub-Committee, the Soviet Government and the other four members of the Sub-Committee have proposed a suspension of tests for about the same period, two to three years in the one case, and two years in the other. Is it not better that this suspension of tests which we all propose should be accompanied by efforts to work out the cessation of production of fissionable materials for weapons purposes? The Canadian Government finds it hard to believe that the world would prefer, as in the Soviet proposal, that the suspension should provide only some illusion of disarmament, while the arms race in nuclear weapons goes on unchecked.

The First (Political and Security) Committee of the General Assembly was convened on October 8. On a proposal of the representative of Brazil, it was agreed without objection that the question of disarmament should be placed first on its agenda. In addition to the report of the Disarmament Commission, three topics were scheduled for discussion under the disarmament item:

(a) *Expansion of the Membership of the Disarmament Commission and its Sub-Committee*

This question was included as a sub-item under the question of disarmament at the request of India. The explanatory memorandum accompanying the proposal reviewed developments in disarmament negotiations, taking the view that

... though the Sub-Committee of the Disarmament Commission has held numerous meetings for the last four years, it must now be admitted that, in its present form, it does not appear to be able to achieve tangible progress or agreement in the field of disarmament. . . .

... the Government of India are of the view that the deliberations and discussions of the Sub-Committee on Disarmament might well be assisted by the presence of such countries as, by virtue of their general approach to problems of world peace, may be in a position to stimulate the processes of understanding and agreement among the Powers more directly involved. The Government of India consider, therefore, that the