

(IRBMs) would have to be put at the disposal of the Supreme Allied Commander Europe.

The Prime Minister pointed out in the House that these far reaching decisions of principle were taken only after a searching review of the necessity for strengthening NATO's capacity to deter aggression. Specific plans for implementing these decisions, which will be the subject of bilateral discussions, will await future ministerial meetings. It was also decided at the meeting that NATO forces and production should be more completely integrated in accordance with the principle of interdependence, so that each member of the Alliance could make the most effective contribution to defence.

Threat to Free World

In their discussion on the international situation, the Heads of Government reviewed the dangers to world peace arising from actions and threats of the Soviet bloc whose aim was to weaken and disrupt the free world. These actions and threats were military, political and economic in nature and were being used throughout the world. To meet this challenge, the free world had to organize its resources—moral, military, political and economic—and had to be ready to deploy them wherever the situation demanded. The Heads of Government decided that the Alliance could not therefore be concerned only with the North Atlantic area or only with military defence. It must also organize its political and economic strength on the principle of interdependence and must take account of developments outside its own area.

This important statement of NATO's interest in areas beyond the Treaty area does not imply an extension of the commitment of the Alliance to defend other areas. Nor, as the Prime Minister said in the House, does it imply in any way a desire on the part of NATO to interfere in the affairs of other countries. NATO's interest was to affirm the support of its member governments for the independence and sovereignty of states in areas such as the Middle East and their continuing interest in the economic well-being of their peoples. To the many nations which have gained their independence since the end of the Second World War, and to all other peoples who are dedicated to peace and freedom, NATO countries offered their co-operation on a basis of complete equality and in a spirit of fraternity.

Apart from the three major decisions on disarmament, the introduction of nuclear weapons and IRBMs into NATO defences and the extension of the concern of the Alliance in areas beyond its borders, a number of other important matters were discussed. There was general recognition of the need to increase the number of trained scientists and technicians in most countries. To give effect to a co-operative effort in this field within the Alliance, Heads of Government decided to establish a NATO Science Committee on which all member countries will be represented by men qualified to speak authoritatively on scientific policy. They also decided to appoint a scientific advisor to the Secretary-General. These decisions will involve NATO in a new and highly complicated field of co-operation.

At the meeting Heads of Government emphasized that NATO was more than a military alliance; that it was a community whose members are guided by similar fundamental ideas, and that under Article II of the Treaty, they had agreed to give effect to the Community by co-operation and collaboration