

the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee (ENDC) and the First Committee¹ were characterized, on the whole, by a tone of dispassion and more active participation by the non-aligned states. Much attention was devoted to the question of preventing the spread of nuclear weapons to countries not now possessing them. Although neither the Disarmament Commission nor the ENDC discussions made substantive progress on this question, the tabling at Geneva of the United States draft treaty on non-proliferation (to which Canada contributed some elements) helped to crystallize the issues at hand. With the tabling of a Soviet counter-draft treaty in the General Assembly, the non-proliferation debate eventually focused on these two proposals.

As a useful complement to a proliferation treaty and as another impediment to the development of nuclear arms, the extension of the partial nuclear test ban treaty to include underground testing received considerable attention. Differing views on the need for on-site inspections to verify suspected breaches of a treaty continued to block agreement. To help resolve the verification problem, Sweden proposed a "nuclear detection club" which might, through exchanges of seismic data, improve the world's capacity to detect, and subsequently identify, nuclear tests. A significant development was the overwhelming support gained by a proposal, presented first in the Disarmament Commission and pursued at some length in the First Committee, for the convening of a world disarmament conference to include all countries, whether members of the United Nations or not. The regional approach to the control of nuclear weapons continued to gain strength with the approval by the First Committee of a proposal to exclude nuclear weapons from the continent of Africa. The question of general and complete disarmament was considered only cursorily. Canada voted for the First Committee's resolutions urging that the ENDC make early progress towards a non-proliferation treaty, a comprehensive nuclear test ban and general and complete disarmament. It also supported resolutions making preliminary provision for the convening of a world disarmament conference and calling upon all states to refrain from introducing nuclear weapons into the continent of Africa.

To most members of the United Nations, Britain's continued refusal to grant independence to Rhodesia on the basis of the 1961 constitution seemed to represent a *sine qua non* for an improvement in the status of the African majority there. Their concern was, therefore, understandable when further progress towards a true multi-racial partnership appeared endangered by the threat of a unilateral declaration of independence, and they spoke with virtually one voice in their appeals to Britain not to let such a development suc-

¹See Page 15.