

Kingdom, the United States and the Soviet Union stationed on German territory, to be followed by a further reduction; and a substantial reduction of the forces of the four Great Powers stationed in the NATO and Warsaw Pact countries. An international control organ to supervise the agreement was also suggested, but its functions were not defined. To safeguard against surprise attack, it was proposed that there should be control posts at ports, railway junctions, main highways and airfields, together with a system of aerial inspection in Europe in a zone extending eight hundred kilometres on either side of the demarcation line. All such inspection would operate from the first stage. Finally, the plan set forth a proposal for a zone of limitation and inspection of armaments in Europe covering Germany and adjacent states, in which the armed forces of the Great Powers would be subject to ceilings, and within which it would be forbidden to station nuclear weapons or units trained in their use.

The Sub-Committee then proceeded to a consideration of its seven-item agenda, under which the provisions of a possible disarmament plan were discussed. The Western representatives pressed Mr. Zorin to state his Government's ideas on a partial disarmament agreement, on the grounds that comprehensive and far-reaching measures were not feasible in the present circumstances.

On the question of nuclear weapons tests, Mr. Zorin continued to insist on immediate cessation of tests independently of disarmament and without provision for control, though he added as an alternative a proposal for the temporary suspension of tests. The Western representatives maintained the position that provided there were effective nuclear controls they would limit and ultimately halt such tests. In the meantime they were prepared to adopt measures such as those suggested at the Eleventh Session of the General Assembly by Canada, Japan and Norway. The Soviet representative rejected all such partial schemes and maintained that the cessation of test explosions could be controlled without stationing elements of the control organ within the testing countries.

Mr. Zorin also continued to call for the elimination of atomic weapons and the cessation of further production of such weapons. Mr. Stassen proposed that, provided a disarmament treaty had been negotiated and ratified, the production of fissionable material for weapons purposes should cease one month after the establishment of an effective inspection system, and suggested that a technical committee of the five powers should begin work on setting up such an inspection system.

There appeared to be some agreement on levels of forces in the first stage (2.5 million men for the United States and Soviet Union and 750,000 for the United Kingdom and France) with corresponding reductions in armaments. The Soviet position also called for agreement at the same time to further reductions at a later stage to 1-1.5 million men for the United States, the U.S.S.R., and China, and 650,000 for the United Kingdom and France. The Western representatives were prepared to agree that there should be further reductions subsequent to the first stage, but only if the system had proved effective and if there was progress towards political settlements.

On the question of control the Western representatives welcomed the apparent advance in the latest Soviet proposals, which had accepted the principle of aerial inspection, but rejected as inadequate the details of the measures proposed in the Soviet plan. Discussion of the agenda item dealing with the