

million men, and the United Kingdom and France to reduce theirs to 650,000 men. Such a substantial reduction of the armed forces of these Powers, together with prohibition of the use of atomic and hydrogen weapons, would mean that progress was being made towards effective disarmament and towards peace.

It follows that the United States, in proposing equal levels of 2.5 million men for the armed forces of the Soviet Union and for its own, is not displaying a realistic approach to the solution of the problem of reducing the armed forces of Powers, in particular those of the Soviet Union and the United States, the more so since this measure is proposed without reference to any further reductions of armed forces or to any measures for the prohibition of atomic weapons.

The Soviet Union stands, as before, for the radical solution of the disarmament problem—that is, for the conclusion of an agreement on a substantial reduction of armed forces and conventional armaments, on the prohibition of atomic and hydrogen weapons and their elimination from the arsenals of States, and also on prohibition of tests of atomic and hydrogen weapons. The Soviet Government has submitted a proposal for that purpose to the Sub-Committee of the United Nations Disarmament Commission.

It is common knowledge that the Soviet Government has already announced its acceptance of the proposal to reduce the armed forces of the United States, the Soviet Union and China to 2.5 million men and of the United Kingdom and France to 750,000 men each, as a first step towards further reductions in the armed forces of the United States, the Soviet Union and China to 1-1.5 million men and of the United Kingdom and France to 650,000 men. It is understood in both cases that the strength of the armed forces is to include personnel employed in the armed forces as civilians but in fact serving military installations and equipment. The Government of the Soviet Union still proposes that an agreement should be concluded to reduce the armed forces of the four Powers to the aforesaid levels in two stages.

2. In connection with the proposal to reduce the armed forces of the United States and the Soviet Union to 2.5 million men and those of the United Kingdom and France to 750,000 men, the United States is proposing that the conventional armaments and military budgets of States reducing their armed forces should be cut by 10 per cent. The Soviet Union would consider it advisable to reduce conventional armaments and military budgets during the first period of the execution of measures for the reduction of armed forces by a greater percentage—by 15 per cent—which would substantially reduce the burden of military expenditure borne by the peoples of all countries.

The size of further reductions in armaments and military budgets could be considered at a later stage.

3. The execution of the measures proposed in paragraphs 1 and 2 above should be placed under appropriate international control. During the first stage, embracing measures for the reduction of the armed forces of the United States of America, the Soviet Union and China to 2.5 million men and those of the United Kingdom and France to 750,000 men, the functions of control will include the collection and analysis of information provided by States on their implementation of partial disarmament measures. Those functions should be performed, as agreed by the parties, by a control organ established for the purpose under the Security Council.