

the dismantling of the sites and the withdrawal of the missiles. The Secretary of State for External Affairs went to New York yesterday and has already made known to the Acting Secretary-General Canada's readiness to make its contribution to whatever inspection and verification arrangement the United Nations may undertake.

I think it is well to reiterate the word of caution that I used yesterday when dealing with this matter. While there will be universal relief that the outlook for a peaceful solution has greatly improved, there is a continuing need for negotiation on this and other potential sources of threats to world peace. The introduction of long-range missiles capable of delivering nuclear warheads to nearly the whole of the Western Hemisphere has brought the world too close to disaster for anyone to indulge in complacency at this time. The fact that conflict has been averted can be attributed in very considerable degree to the unity, co-operation and understanding among the Western allies in the face of a dangerous threat.

We should all recognize the constructive role that the United Nations has played in this crisis. Once again the world organization has provided a forum where the parties could meet together and where the Secretary-General could have the opportunity of using his offices.

With regard to the future, the first task is to restore the *status quo ante* by the complete liquidation of the situation in Cuba which had so dangerously upset the precarious balance of world power. But it will not be enough simply to return to the unsatisfactory stalemate in East-West relations. Even at the peak of the crisis, President Kennedy and Chairman Khrushchov, and Prime Minister Macmillan too, felt the need to speak of the future and the pressing urgency of negotiating other outstanding differences. These acknowledgements of future needs open up new possibilities for progress on a broader front. We must ensure that the momentum toward peace generated by this close brush with war is not lost in the days ahead.

Issues have been raised in the correspondence between the President and the Chairman which properly belong in the disarmament field. The Government feels that the machinery exists at Geneva to pursue these topics, and that the 18-Nation Disarmament Conference should be reconvened with the least possible delay, their responsibility being to address themselves to these problems which, though not new in themselves, may have been given new possibility of solution over the week-end.

Out of all this has come a step forward that few could have expected a week ago, and that is in the acceptance by the U.S.S.R. of the principle of inspection and verification. If the present settlement is fully accepted this will be the first time that agreed measures of disarmament are to be carried out under international inspection. This gives hope in the general field of disarmament, where up to the present time the Soviets have demanded that all international agreements for disarmament should be free from inspection, a course of action which would be dangerous in the utmost to the free world.