

been expressed during the debate, and that it submit a progress report by August 1, 1957.

III. Meetings of the Sub-Committee of the Disarmament Commission: March 18 - September 6, 1957

The most recent session of the Sub-Committee was convened on March 18, and held a total of seventy-one meetings between that date and its adjournment on September 6. Canada's representative from the beginning of the session until mid-August was Mr. D. M. Johnson, Canadian Ambassador to Moscow, Mr. C. S. A. Ritchie, Canadian Ambassador to Germany, succeeded Mr. Johnson during the last month of the session. France was represented by M. Jules Moch; the U.S.S.R. by Mr. Valerian Zorin, Deputy Foreign Minister; the United Kingdom by Commander the Rt. Hon. Alan Noble, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, and for parts of the session by the Rt. Hon. Selwyn Lloyd, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and the Rt. Hon. W. D. Ormsby-Gore, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs; and the United States by the Hon. Harold E. Stassen, Special Assistant to the President of the United States.

The Sub-Committee discussions began with a preliminary statement by each of the representatives. In his opening speech, the Canadian representative called upon the Sub-Committee to try once again to make some progress in the task assigned to it by the United Nations. "It seems clear" he continued,

that, although there are important differences of policy and approach among us, the gap between the various proposals is not now as great as it once was. I know we are all agreed that we must now eschew propaganda speeches and discuss fully and freely the different proposals advanced, and strive to reach a realistic and acceptable disarmament programme.

I think we all recognize that disarmament discussions are only one sector of the whole front of international effort to achieve a secure and peaceful world; disarmament cannot be treated in isolation from the settlement of other international issues which divide the world today. Nevertheless, large scale armaments, and in particular the incalculable menace of today's nuclear weapons, are themselves an important source of international tension, and a break in the long disarmament deadlock would in itself do much to improve the prospects for a secure agreement among nations.

In their statements at the opening meeting, the representatives of the United Kingdom and France reaffirmed their support for a plan calling for comprehensive conventional and nuclear disarmament in three stages, which they had proposed jointly on March 19, 1956. Both representatives also referred to the desirability of proceeding with negotiations toward at least a partial measure of disarmament, if a more comprehensive plan were thought unattainable. At the second meeting of the Sub-Committee, on March 19, the United States representative reaffirmed the proposals which had been put forward in the First Committee of the General Assembly on January 14.

In his opening speech, the Soviet representative tabled a new plan for comprehensive disarmament, which was in large measure based on earlier proposals, notably those of November 17, 1956. The Soviet programme called for conventional reductions by the Great Powers in two stages, with a world conference to determine the extent of reductions by other states; an immediate undertaking not to use nuclear weapons, to be followed during the second stage by the cessation of their manufacture, and the elimination of stockpiles of previous production; the liquidation in two stages of all foreign bases; a one-third reduction during the first stage of the forces of France, the United