

implications which the Indian Government will examine carefully. Indeed, Prime Minister Nehru, while maintaining India's consistent position that a cease-fire must be based on the status quo before hostilities began, has stated that when the Chinese proposals are officially received they will be given full consideration.

For our part, Canadians will welcome any arrangements that will be acceptable to the Governments of India and China. However, until we have fuller information it would be premature to express further views. In the meantime we shall carry on with our plans and actions to provide India with defensive material assistance. . . .

As I said yesterday, there has been a review in connection with the requirements of India. We are endeavouring to achieve a reasonable degree of unity as among the United Kingdom, the United States and Canada so there will be no unnecessary duplication or triplication.

In so far as food is concerned, there has been no request so far. There has, however, on a previous occasion been a request for consideration of certain clothing items. Further than that, I have nothing to add to what I have already stated. . . .

GATT Ministerial Meeting

On November 15, the Prime Minister made the following statement concerning the ministerial meeting of the GATT scheduled for early 1963:

. . . Representatives of the nations who are parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade now meeting in Geneva have agreed that a ministerial meeting should be held in the early part of 1963 to consider a programme for effective liberalization and expansion of trade in both primary and secondary products. I think I can do no better in this connection than to read from a press communique which will be released today by the GATT Secretariat. It says that the Contracting Parties have agreed that a ministerial meeting should be held in the early part of 1963 to consider such a programme to which I have already referred:

—full weight should be attached to the importance and urgency of negotiating solutions to problems of trade in primary products and to the additional trade problems of less-developed countries. The proposal that such a meeting should be held was made jointly by the Governments of the United States of America and Canada.

A precise date for the meeting should be determined by the Council of Representatives.

The Council should be convened for this purpose by the Executive Secretary at the earliest possible date that he feels that necessary elements exist for arriving at a decision.

In this connection, due weight should be attached to the fact that, in order to enable the United States of America to play a full part in a further substantial and early movement for reduction of tariffs and other barriers to trade, it is desirable that the necessary decision to initiate such a movement be taken early in 1963.

Council should at the same time propose an agenda for the meeting of ministers and make adequate preparation for the meeting.

I know the House will appreciate the fact, as it says in the communique, that Canada and the United States jointly proposed in Geneva that this meeting be held. This decision is directly in line, as I said a moment ago, with the proposal I