

Commission, not later than June 1, 1962, a report on the progress achieved. The resolution (1722), which reflected ideas put forward by the Canadian Delegation in the Assembly, was welcomed and fully supported by Canada; it was unanimously adopted on December 20. At the close of 1961, it was expected that the new 18-Nation Disarmament Committee would meet in Geneva about the middle of March.

Prior to the adoption of the resolution endorsing the setting up of the new Disarmament Committee, two proposals were put before the Assembly which dealt with the question of the wider dissemination of nuclear weapons. The first proposal, submitted by Sweden and five other countries, suggested that an enquiry be made "as to the conditions under which countries not possessing nuclear weapons might be willing to enter into specific undertakings to refrain from manufacturing or otherwise acquiring such weapons and to refuse to receive in the future nuclear weapons on their territories on behalf of any other country". It requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on the results of this enquiry to the Disarmament Commission not later than April 1, 1962. The resolution (1664) was adopted by the Assembly on December 4 by vote of 58 in favour, 10 opposed and 23 abstentions. Canada voted for the resolution on the grounds that the proposed survey could serve a useful purpose in clarifying the viewpoint of governments on this important issue. It was made clear that the Canadian reply to the survey would reflect the continuing policy of the Government that the only effective way of preventing the spread of nuclear weapons was through the adoption of a broad international agreement binding on all states. The second proposal, an Irish resolution (1665) which was unanimously approved on the same day, called on all states, particularly those possessing nuclear weapons, to use their best endeavours to secure an international agreement containing provisions under which all states would refrain from giving or receiving nuclear weapons or the information necessary for their manufacture.

### Nuclear Testing

Hopes for an early agreement on the cessation of nuclear weapons tests under a reliable system of international control suffered a serious setback when the Soviet Union rejected a revised Western draft treaty in April 1961—a treaty which made significant concessions to the Soviet view in an effort to break the deadlock then prevailing. Not only did the Soviet Union reject the draft treaty, it reversed its earlier position on several crucial questions.

The situation further deteriorated when, on August 30, the Soviet Union, after secret preparations, explicitly renounced the voluntary three-year-old moratorium and undertook a lengthy series of tests. The announcement ended the tripartite nuclear test ban negotiations which were still officially in progress. This disturbing development gave a sense of urgency to the discussion of nuclear testing in the General Assembly, as exemplified