

of course whenever the circumstances are favourable—to consider further action of this kind which at the very least inhibits dangerous movements of forces and may even save the peace of the world and thus give us the time and the atmosphere in which to continue disarmament negotiations. I need hardly add that Canada has always made a full contribution to United Nations undertakings of this sort.

It has been our wish in the Canadian Delegation to participate in a constructive approach to this central question of international security and in our participation, I repeat, we have the role of a middle power. We believe that there are many measures of disarmament which are capable of inspection and control and which could genuinely add to our security because all participating countries could be reasonably sure that other states are living up to their obligations. Among these measures are reductions in forces and conventional armaments and also agreement to provide that henceforth all production of fissionable materials will be solely for peaceful purposes. These are two of the main themes in the draft resolution before the Assembly co-sponsored by four members of the Sub-Committee and a large number of other nations.

Two other measures, included in that resolution, could do a great deal to allay our present anxieties. These are, first, a suspension of testing of nuclear weapons, particularly the largest scale hydrogen weapons, and secondly, some variant of the several proposals which have been made for a system of advance warning against surprise attack by means of reciprocal air and ground inspection. The delegation of India has tabled proposals for scientific commissions to go into some of the detailed problems of inspection and control. These suggestions merit careful examination, particularly with reference to the last two measures.

Canada is one of the sponsors of the twenty-four power resolution I have mentioned. We urge its adoption. Nevertheless we must remain sensitive to every possibility of improving it. Let us not be inflexible. We of Canada certainly do not say that the particular proposals with which we are now associated are the only means by which at least some progress can be made towards disarmament.

The Soviet Delegation has been particularly indifferent—even hostile—to the proposal to use all production of fissionable material for peaceful purposes. We are at a loss to understand this Soviet objection to any cut-off date on the production of weapons from fissionable material. It seems to us strange that despite their many declarations in favour of "banning the bomb" and prohibiting its use, they are not more interested in finding a workable proposal for stopping the manufacture of such weapons, particularly when such a proposal is preceded as it would be under our resolution by the suspension of test explosions.

Speakers in this debate have properly devoted considerable attention to suggestions for suspension of tests of nuclear weapons with suitable control posts and technical equipment in the areas where such tests have been made. The latest proposals in the Sub-Committee which I have mentioned and which Canada co-sponsored, do provide for suspension of tests as the very first thing to be done in our plan for initial steps of disarmament. Under this plan tests could be suspended for two years. The Assembly should note that the sponsors of this proposal have made a real effort to match the proper international concern about the testing of nuclear weapons. As you are all aware, Canada does not produce nuclear weapons. Therefore, we have not ourselves conducted any of these tests. Thus, we are in this respect in the same position as the great majority of the other nations represented here. Whatever the correct view may be as to the possible harmful effects of radiation and fallout, I think none of us would want to discount the anxiety on this score felt by the peoples of all nations. However, in the present international circumstances of tension and fear, it is inevitable, unless we do something now, that the major powers will seek to augment and improve their weapons, and this involves tests. While we are certainly not opposed to any fair and reciprocal measures to be taken as soon as possible with respect to the tests of nuclear weapons, we are also convinced that some more fundamental action must also be agreed upon and must be taken.

We all have this much in common, that we share an interest in survival. Let us then so order our endeavours that we may ensure that the engines which are capable of putting our survival in hazard are made the servants and not the masters of man. But if the wonderful devices for harnessing the forces of nature which science has contrived are to be used to alleviate and not to increase human misery and destitution, we must organize political machinery which will direct these discoveries into the ways of peace. I cannot believe that this is a simple matter which can be done by the stroke