

to a political agreement with respect to the cessation of these tests. This is a view which has been advanced by the Prime Minister throughout the country on several occasions; but let me say that the detection and inspection, the control and supervision of nuclear power do not constitute in themselves a measure of disarmament. They are a means to ensure disarmament; they provide sanctions for a political agreement with respect to a type of disarmament, and I would express the hope that after the successful conclusion of the present technical studies there might be taken what could be regarded as a step having a revolutionary effect on the international climate.

An initial move might be made with respect to the cessation of further nuclear tests, and in that way there might be established some element of mutual trust and confidence, after which the nations concerned could move on to the more complex aspects of a disarmament program. The suspension of nuclear tests with these guarantees as to detection could constitute the first step toward agreement, which agreement would in turn be the first step toward disarmament, even though this would not be the most important measure, which is that having to do with the use of nuclear weapons already proved.

There is another encouraging factor on which I would like to report with respect to disarmament. Mr. Eisenhower proposed that it would be useful to study practical measures to provide required safeguards against surprise attacks and we have been heartened by a rather affirmative reply by Mr. Khrushchev. We in Canada should promote in every possible way the holding of a meeting of scientists of a somewhat similar nature to the present Geneva meeting with respect to the detection of nuclear tests, in order to study means and methods of preventing surprise attacks. This is a matter which is, of course, of very direct concern to this country with particular reference to surprise attacks over the Arctic region.

I am sure I need not spell out the implications of this matter or draw a picture of what we have advocated in this regard. I reported on our advocacy at the Copenhagen meeting. The Russians had indicated - and this I would like to emphasize - that they might be willing to sit down with such a group. I do not think a political agreement would be necessary at this stage, any more than it has been necessary to enter into a political agreement with respect to the holding of nuclear tests while the current meeting of scientists is being held. I propose, however, that scientists should be brought together in order to study this further problem.