

Second, it would inhibit the development of more and more destructive nuclear weapons.

Third, it would arrest the development of nuclear weapons by an increasing number of nations, a danger whose gravity can be recognized by all and, one may say, especially by the present nuclear powers.

Fourth, it would be a start on disarmament. My Delegation entirely endorses the view expressed by the Acting Secretary-General in the introduction to his annual report, in which he emphasized that the first step toward disarmament is to stop nuclear testing. We share his sincere hope "that the nuclear powers will realize that the whole world is hoping and praying that an agreed first step may be taken soon".

In short, an agreement to end nuclear-weapons tests would be a first clear proof that the many declarations by the great powers that they want to end the arms race are not mere words, but will result in real and effective action.

Devising Means

I have reviewed so far the weighty reasons in favour of putting a stop to nuclear tests. In my opinion these factors, taken together, should convince every rational man that the need for a solution is urgent. It remains, however, to devise practical means for achieving this goal. In recent months several suggestions have been made which, my Delegation believes, should be endorsed by this Assembly.

In the first place, we strongly support the proposal put forward in the 18-Nation Committee for an early out-off date by which all testing would be ended - January 1, 1963, or, we would hope, earlier. The acceptance by this Assembly of a target date should provide added incentive to speedily resolve the remaining differences.

Second, Canada endorses the proposal for an immediate ban on all testing in the atmosphere, outer space, and under water. Such a proposal is common to the draft treaties advanced by both sides, and an agreement would be a substantial step in the direction of a comprehensive ban. It would greatly reduce or even remove the health hazard resulting from nuclear testing. Moreover, differences over inspection do not constitute a barrier to agreement in this field.

Third, my Delegation wishes to underline the importance we attach to the contribution of the eight unaligned nations represented at the Geneva negotiations in putting forward compromise proposals on a verification system. The Canadian Delegation has taken the stand at the 18-Nation Conference -- and we reaffirm it now -- that the eight-nation proposals provide a sound basis for an agreement satisfactory to all concerned. A system based on existing national networks of observation posts with new posts if necessary, an international scientific commission