in our resolution, I should perhaps comment briefly on one possible misconception about the nature of its objectives. It is not our intention - and in this I am sure I speak for all co-sponsors - it is in no way our intention to involve ourselves here with the complex question of effective and practical arrangements for achieving a cessation of nuclear weapons tests. The position of the Canadian Government on this issue is well known. Canada is unalterably opposed to the testing of nuclear weapons, both because of the radiation hazard posed by such tests and because of their contribution to the development of ever more terrible weapons of war. The Canadian attitude in this respect has been emphasized wherever and whenever the matter of tests has been discussed. It will continue to be stressed in the appropriate forum, the First Committee of this Assembly.

But what we are concerned with here in the Special Political Committee is one specific aspect of the dangers associated with the testing of nuclear weapons in the atmosphere. The basis for our urgent examination of this problem is the indisputable fact that sharp increases in radioactive fall-out have occurred as a result of nuclear weapons testing. This is not a matter for argument and it is not a theoretical prospect; it is a harsh reality. The hazards which it poses for all our peoples are the proper concern of the Scientific Committee whose report we have before us. It is not only appropriate but also imperative that in the light of recent developments we should place renewed emphasis on all the various lines of study being carried out by the Committee.

It is against this background that I turn now to the proposals we have offered in the twenty-two power resolution before the Committee.

The preambular paragraphs of our resolution record the deep and universal concern about the increasing levels of radioactive fall-out, to which I have already referred. The second of

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