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DEA/50271-M-40

*Note du premier ministre  
pour le premier ministre du Royaume-Uni*

*Memorandum from Prime Minister  
to Prime Minister of United Kingdom*

TOP SECRET

[Ottawa], April 24, 1962

Thank you for your message of April 23 giving me advance warning of the decision which will be announced tomorrow to go ahead with the Christmas Island Tests.

In view of the position the Canadian Government has consistently taken on this question, I cannot conceal from you my regret that it has not proved possible to find a solution at Geneva which would have enabled you and President Kennedy to dispense with further testing with a reasonable sense of security. I realize that this must have been a very difficult decision to take in the light of the incalculable consequences it may have in terms of continuation of the nuclear weapons race and the prospects for disarmament.

I believe that the new situation we now face makes it even more imperative to persist in efforts at Geneva to create a system of international verification either on the basis of the Eight-Power proposal or some other foundation which may emerge in the course of further discussion.

[J.G. DIEFENBAKER]

33.

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*Le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures  
aux missions en Inde, en Égypte, au Nigéria,  
au Brésil, au Mexique, en Suède  
et de la délégation au Comité sur le désarmement*

*Secretary of State for External Affairs  
to Missions in India, Egypt, Nigeria, Brazil, Mexico, Sweden  
and Delegation to Disarmament Committee*

TELEGRAM N-203

Ottawa, April 25, 1962

CONFIDENTIAL. OPIMMEDIATE.

Repeat for Information: NATO Paris, Paris, Washington, London, Permis New York, Bonn, Rome, CCOS (JS/DSS) (Priority).

By Bag Moscow, Kuala Lumpur (Priority).

## NUCLEAR TESTING

On instructions from the Minister action addressees (except Disarmament Delegation) are requested to call on foreign ministers or their deputies as soon as possible and to express to them the Canadian Government's earnest wish that the delegates of the non-aligned members of the Disarmament Committee will continue to participate fully in the Conference notwithstanding the resumption of nuclear weapons tests by USA and Britain in the Pacific. Heads of Mission should stress the importance of a continuing and uninterrupted effort by all members of the Committee to find an acceptable basis for a permanent test ban agreement. The three nuclear powers have indicated their willingness to discuss the question further using the compromise proposal submitted by the eight neutral members as one, if not