

Commission the texts of the documents which had been tabled during the session. At its last two meetings on May 3 and 4, the Western delegations tabled additional papers including a Declaration of Principles by the four Western members.

In early June, Marshal Bulganin, the Soviet Premier, sent personal messages concerning disarmament to Prime Minister St. Laurent and to the heads of the Governments of the United Kingdom, the United States, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, and Turkey. His message to Prime Minister St. Laurent spoke of the urgent need for a solution to problems of disarmament and called attention to the Soviet Government's intention to reduce their forces by 1,200,000 men, with a corresponding reduction of armaments and military expenditures. In his reply Mr. St. Laurent said that Canadian satisfaction over the announced Soviet reductions was tempered by the reflection that they would have been more timely ten years earlier and that they would leave the Soviet Union stronger in Europe than the Western powers. If reductions were to contribute to international confidence, the letter went on, they would have to be part of an agreement providing machinery to assure all signatories that the reductions were in fact carried out and providing also for an adequate system for warning of preparations for surprise attack. After observing that any comprehensive disarmament programme would be contingent on the solution of urgent political questions, Mr. St. Laurent promised continuing efforts for agreement, and observed that if the Soviet Government had a corresponding willingness to co-operate, significant and gratifying results could be attained.

On July 3, the Disarmament Commission of the United Nations was again convened to consider the third report of its sub-committee. Mr. Nutting of the United Kingdom introduced in the name of Canada, France, the United Kingdom and the United States, a joint draft resolution reaffirming the principles of the above-mentioned declaration of May 4. In summary, the six principles set forth required that the disarmament programme should proceed by stages; that it should begin with significant reductions in armed forces, armaments and military expenditures under effective international control; that it should provide for a strong control organization; that it should include preliminary demonstrations of inspection methods on a small scale; and that provision should be made for its suspension should a major state fail to carry out its obligations or in the event that a threat to peace under chapter VII of the United Nations Charter should develop. A draft resolution introduced by Mr. Gromyko, the Representative of the Soviet Union, noted with satisfaction "the substantial relaxation of international tension" which had taken place recently, and declared that a further undertaking by all states to renounce war and repudiate nuclear weapons would go even further towards strengthening the confidence of nations in one another. It also called upon all members of the United Nations to declare that they assumed a solemn obligation to refrain from the use of such weapons. The debate continued on July 5 with the Canadian statement by the Honourable Paul Martin who stressed the fundamental agreement among the Western powers, called upon the sub-committee to concentrate its immediate efforts on a limited or first-stage plan, and expressed the hope that the changes for the better which had taken place since the twentieth Congress of the