



CANADA

## STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
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### FAILURE AT GENEVA

A statement by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Howard Green, to the House of Commons on June 27, 1960.

I am afraid the Ten-Nation Disarmament Committee has been scuttled by the action of the Eastern members this morning. I spoke to General Burns earlier in the morning, and apparently there were at least two Western speakers on the list to participate in the discussions this morning. Mr. Zorin, the chairman of the Soviet delegation, had been told by Mr. Eaton, the chairman of the United States delegation, that there would be a Western proposal submitted later this week. This was before the Committee actually met.

When the Committee did meet under the chairmanship today of Mr. Naszkowski of Poland, Mr. Zorin made a statement in which he accused the Western members of the Committee of refusing to negotiate, and made other charges, and said that the Eastern members would be carrying their proposals to the United Nations. Then, in spite of the fact that Western members were trying to get the floor, the Polish chairman refused to allow any of them to do so. Instead he called on each of the other four Eastern members, and then he and the whole Eastern delegation stalked out. Therefore no representative of the Western nations was permitted to speak at all. When this happened Mr. Ormsby-Gore, the head of the British delegation, took the chair and Mr. Eaton tabled the United States plan. Of course that was all that could be done at this meeting.

I should like to explain to the House that the Soviet plan was issued with a great flourish of trumpets just a day or two before the ten-member Committee resumed its sitting, which I think was on June 2. All the foreign ambassadors in Moscow were called in and given copies of the Soviet plan. In reporting to the House I said then that there were heavy propaganda overtones to the introduction of this Russian proposal.