

be made. Arrangements for purchase of the equipment for one division from the United States were made during the autumn.

Atomic Energy

As one of the six permanent members of the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission, Canada continued to participate, as far as circumstances permitted, in discussions concerning the international control of atomic energy. In January, 1950, the Soviet representative walked out of the Six Power atomic energy talks, raising the irrelevant issue of Chinese representation. This abrupt action prevented any further steps being taken towards agreement, in spite of the increasingly urgent need for effective international control in a world anticipating the production of hydrogen bombs and painfully conscious of an increase in international tension. In the autumn the General Assembly of the United Nations heard several propaganda speeches by Soviet bloc delegates in which were included frequent references to atomic control. While these speeches were carefully examined by Canadian and other officials, they failed to reveal any modification of the U.S.S.R.'s former intransigent stand on the question of control.

During the session of the General Assembly, President Truman indicated his willingness to meet the repeated Soviet demand for joint consideration of measures concerning atomic control on the one hand, and conventional weapons and disarmament on the other.