

discussing further the general issues they should commence to discuss specific measures of disarmament. Mind you, that would mean that these directions would come from President Eisenhower, Prime Minister Macmillan, President de Gaulle and Premier Khrushchov. We had in mind that a joint declaration of recommendation, whatever you wish to call it, should be made to the disarmament negotiators.

Also we suggested that an attempt might very well be made to work out package deals; that is, take one measure of disarmament in which the West was interested and one of equivalent importance in which the East was interested and try to make a package deal with regard to these two particular aspects of disarmament. For example, the West might offer to negotiate a controlled limitation on force levels and related conventional armaments if the Soviet side would agree to negotiate on the nuclear disarmament measures in stages one and two of the Western plan.

We believe this is a practical way to get things moving, and if package deals of that kind could be made in several instances the first thing we would know there would be a worth-while disarmament agreement.

Then we also suggested that when the Disarmament Committee meets again there should be certain informal off-the-record meetings of the negotiators. To date they have been having formal meetings, records are kept, and then, after a matter of a few weeks, the whole record is published, which means, as I am sure all Parliamentarians will understand, that there is a great deal of talking for the record. We think it would be very useful if the negotiators could get into a huddle from time to time and really try to work out something among themselves. We do not say there should be no more formal meetings, but we think a mixture of formal and informal meetings would be very beneficial. We hope there will be recommendations of this kind made by the summit to the ten-member Committee.

Our suggestions were received very well by the other Western foreign ministers and also, when the NATO Council met, they were favourably received in the deliberations of that Council.

Then a word or two with regard to the NATO Council meeting. It was concerned primarily with preparations for the summit. Most of the time was spent in discussing what the three Western heads of government should propose at the summit meeting. There had been three working groups set up; one on disarmament, of which of course Canada was a member; another on Germany and Berlin, of which Germany was a member in addition to the United Kingdom, the United States and France; and also one on East-West relations, which was composed of representatives of the United Kingdom, the United States and France and also one representative from the NATO Council.