

WHILE INDICATING THAT THEY WOULD HAVE CONTRIBUTED MORE EFFECTIVELY TO THE RESTORATION OF INTERNATIONAL CONFIDENCE AND THE REMOVAL OF CONCERN ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF WAR HAD THEY BEEN FEATURES OF A DISARMAMENT AGREEMENT WHICH INCLUDED SUITABLE MEASURES OF VERIFICATION. IN THE PRESENT CASE THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THAT THE RESOLUTION OF THE SUPREME SOVIET WOULD HAVE MERITED A WARMER WELCOME HAD IT BEEN PRESENTED LESS AS A CHALLENGE TO OTHER MAJOR POWERS AND MORE AS A FOUNDATION OF A WIDER AGREEMENT.

CANADA HAS CONSTANTLY SOUGHT IN THE UNITED NATIONS FOR AN ACCEPTABLE WAY OF MAKING A FIRST APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM OF NUCLEAR TESTS, APART FROM OTHER DISARMAMENT MEASURES, BY PRIOR REGISTRATION OR BY AN AGREEMENT TO LIMIT THE VOLUME OF RADIATION PRODUCED. IN A MORE FAR-REACHING PLAN, CANADA IN AUGUST 1957 CO-SPONSORED WITH FRANCE, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND UNITED STATES DISARMAMENT PROPOSALS WHICH INCLUDED AS ONE OF THE INITIAL STEPS, SUBJECT TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SATISFACTORY SYSTEM OF VERIFICATION, A TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF NUCLEAR TESTS WHICH WOULD BE CONTINUED PROVIDED THAT THERE WERE ADVANCES IN OTHER ASPECTS OF DISARMAMENT. THE SOVIET UNION SHOWED NO INTEREST IN DISCUSSING ANY OF THESE PROPOSALS DESPITE ASSURANCES THAT THEY WERE NOT INFLEXIBLE. IT IS THE SINCERE HOPE OF THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT THAT THE PRESENT SOVIET ACTION IS INTENDED TO ASSIST IN THE PROMOTION OF AGREED ARRANGEMENTS AND WILL NOT BE USED AS A DEVICE FOR AVOIDING A SYSTEM IN WHICH ALL CAN HAVE CONFIDENCE. ABOVE ALL IT IS OUR HOPE THAT THIS UNILATERAL ACTION IS THE PRELUDE TO RENEWED NEGOTIATIONS ON DISARMAMENT AND DOES NOT IMPLY CONTINUING SOVIET REJECTION OF THE UNITED NATIONS AS THE FORUM FOR NEGOTIATIONS.