

ground to take since within the last few weeks the U.S.S.R. has refused to have anything to do with the Disarmament Committee of the Five Nations, and has given notice that it will not participate in the deliberations in the United Nations Committee of 25 on Disarmament which is to commence its deliberations early in the New Year.

I still express the hope that the leaders of the U.S.S.R. will try to meet us half way and face this dreadful problem of continually mounting armaments instead of continuing in the future as in the past to do everything to throw road blocks in the way of a fair and reasonable agreement on disarmament.

The Conference left no doubt that its member nations will continue to stand together and to stand fast. I believe that our alliance, (far from showing signs of disintegration as our enemies hoped it would) has become stronger, more efficient, and more realistic to meet any threat which could or would be brought against it, and will strive more than ever before to bring about peace in this troubled world.

We have put our house in order against any who may come in the night to destroy us. But we have not latched the door against anyone who may come seeking peace. To such the door is open.

At this season of the year - and indeed throughout the year -- we think of the captive peoples who have been held down in tyranny in the Ukraine, Hungary, Poland, East Germany and the Baltic States, and in other parts of Europe. I felt that a message should be given to them from the Conference, and my suggestion was accepted.

I am not going to read the section of the declaration, but its effect will be to let these captive peoples know that we realize their sacrifices, and that their heroism has not been forgotten. We have let them know that their plight will not be forgotten - and that in the fullness of time our hope is that they, and free men everywhere, will once again be free to live their lives as they will.

I feel sure that you will want me to tell you, as your representative at these talks, that I found on all sides the greatest good will for Canada. I am sure that it is the wish of all the other countries that we continue to take a leading role in the councils of NATO. I am able to report to you, as a simple statement of fact, that the voice of Canada is being listened to with respect and consideration by these our friends of Europe, Asia and America.

It was a memorable experience to sit at that Conference and see gathered around me the Presidents, Chancellors or Prime Ministers of so many of the leading nations of the Free World. Because the seating order was alphabetically by countries, Premier van Acker of Belgium was on my right, and Premier Hansen of Denmark on my left. Present was President Eisenhower who appeared, I am happy to say, in excellent health and good spirits throughout the meetings. Among the others were, of course, Prime Minister Harold Macmillan of the United Kingdom, Chancellor Adenauer of West Germany and Premier Galliard of France.

I am sure that all of us gained immeasurably from this unprecedented opportunity to meet each other face to face in an atmosphere of friendship, tolerance and understanding. It