

136-3-13, with the United States, Britain and France voting against it, and Canada abstaining.⁹ Resolution 44/106 called for the establishment of a preparatory committee to organize the Conference to convert the PTBT into a CTBT. This resolution was adopted by a vote of 127-2-22, with the United States and Britain voting against and Canada again abstaining.¹⁰ France announced that it would not participate in the vote.

Finally, Canada co-sponsored Resolution 44/107, which called upon the CD to initiate substantive work and for the nuclear weapon states to agree to "appropriate verifiable interim measures on nuclear testing" so as to achieve a CTBT as quickly as possible. It also called on the CD to set up an international seismic monitoring network, and to investigate other measures to monitor and verify compliance with a CTBT. This Resolution was adopted by a vote of 145-2-6, with France and the United States in opposition.¹¹

PARLIAMENTARY COMMENT

On 16 February 1990, the Honourable Warren Allmand presented a motion to the House asking the Canadian government to join the thirty-nine signatory states to the Partial Test Ban Treaty that had asked for a conference to convert it into a comprehensive test ban treaty. Mr. Allmand explained the background and importance of the PTBT as follows:

The partial test ban treaty was signed in 1963 by President John Kennedy and Secretary Nikita Khrushchev of the Soviet Union, and originally it was a treaty to deal with radioactive fallout. It was also seen as a means to stop the development of new nuclear weapons. According to the partial test ban treaty, the countries that signed the treaty pledged themselves not to test nuclear weapons in the atmosphere, under the sea, or in outer space. This meant that the only place left for the testing of nuclear weapons was under ground.

That does not mean that testing has not taken place, as most of you know. As a matter of fact, there have been over 1,000 tests of nuclear weapons since 1963, all under ground. Unfortunately, these tests have led to the proliferation of new types of nuclear weapons

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In 1963, with the partial test ban treaty testing was abolished in the atmosphere, under water and in outer space. By leaving that particular avenue open, testing nuclear weapons underground, we have had a massive proliferation of nuclear weapons.¹²

⁹ UNGA Resolution 44/105, 15 December 1989.

¹⁰ UNGA Resolution 44/106, 15 December 1989.

¹¹ UNGA Resolution 44/107, 15 December 1989.

¹² *Commons Debates*, 16 February 1990, p. 8473.