

Commission, or it might be a citizen of a country which does not belong to the UN, such as Switzerland.

A Neutral Chairman

The neutral chairman would attend impartially to the procedures of the Committee and see that it had a regular order of business at each meeting. With such a chairman and procedure, the Committee would be spared, I am sure, the talking at cross-purposes. In short, this neutral chairman could assist in conducting a discussion on the complex maze of problems which compose the disarmament question.

For if we have learned anything at all during the protracted international discussion of disarmament, it is that the subject is complicated, and grows more so with each passing week, month and year of weapons development. We need only remember the statements which have already been made in this discussion today to realize that fact. If we are ever to cope with the growing problem, we must make a start on actual measures, without detracting from the more comprehensive plans related to ultimate goals.

The very complexity of the issues indicates one way to make progress, and that is, through technical studies. It is already common ground that many measures of disarmament and their verification will require joint technical studies before there can be agreement on and implementation of actual measures. And in this connection, I was somewhat surprised to hear the representative of the U.S.S.R. arguing so strongly this morning against technical studies. In a minute or two I hope to be able to show that his own side have expressed great interest and have actually carried out joint technical studies in the three-power committee at Geneva.

Draft Resolution

It seems to my Government that a useful list of possibilities — which does not necessarily have to be treated as exhaustive — is to be found in the draft resolution on technical studies submitted by the United Kingdom in Document A/C1/L251. This draft resolution, as I understand it, seeks to give expression to the important suggestion made by Prime Minister Macmillan in the general debate that many aspects of the disarmament question might usefully be approached from the scientific point of view. The Canadian Government favours this approach and believes it capable of extension, even beyond the limits which the United Kingdom may have envisaged for it.

▲ We see this as a procedure to expedite negotiations — not to delay them as some would suggest. The powers concerned should be willing to begin joint technical studies concerning the measures, at the earliest possible date, irrespective of any interruption in the political negotiations on disarmament. If it is agreed that studies are required in order to facilitate negotiations, why not undertake those studies at once?

The studies would be conducted by experts, especially by nationals of the