

stockpiling of chemical agents produced for industrial as well as for military purposes. However, a solution to this difficult question is not yet in sight.

In an attempt to promote the development of a consensus concerning chemical and biological weapons, Canada made an unequivocal statement of position on March 24, 1970: "Canada never has had and does not now possess any biological weapons (or toxins) and does not intend to develop, produce, acquire, stockpile or use such weapons at any time in the future. Canada does not possess any chemical weapons and does not intend to develop, produce, acquire, stockpile or use such weapons at any time in the future unless these weapons should be used against the military forces or the civil population of Canada or its allies. The latter condition is in accordance with the reservations Canada entered at the time of our ratification of the Geneva Protocol of 1925. Canada would consider formally withdrawing her reservations if effective and verifiable agreements to destroy all stockpiles and prevent the development, production and acquisition of chemical weapons can be concluded. Tear gas and other crowd and riot control agents are not included in this commitment because their use or the prohibition of their use in war presents practical problems in relation to the use of the same agents by police and armed forces for law enforcement purposes that require detailed study and resolution."

The United Nations General Assembly debated these controversial issues and eventually approved a resolution requesting the Geneva Committee to continue its negotiations with a view to prohibiting, as a matter of urgency, the development, production and stockpiling of these weapons and to their elimination from all military arsenals. The resolution was adopted on December 7, by a vote of 113 to none, with two abstentions.

### **Comprehensive Test Ban (CTB)**

The need for a comprehensive test ban that would prohibit underground nuclear tests and thus supplement the 1963 Partial Test Ban Treaty, which prohibits nuclear tests in the atmosphere, in outer space and under water, has long been recognized by members of the CCD. However, an intractable impasse on verification has prevented the conclusion of a supplementary treaty; the United States insists that on-site inspections are necessary in order to detect violations of the agreement, while the Soviet Union insists that "national means" of seismological detection are entirely adequate for this purposes. In recent years Canada has taken the initiative in trying to reduce the proportions of this problem. A Canadian resolution at the 1969 General Assembly called for "the provision of certain information in the context of the creation of a worldwide exchange of seismological data which would facilitate the achievement of a comprehensive test ban". The resolution, in spite of opposition from the Soviet Union and its allies, won widespread support and the requested information was submitted by most member states of the United Nations. This information concerning seismic monitoring facilities was carefully analysed by Canadian seismologists during 1970. Cn