

an Atomic Energy Commission charged with devising ways and means of making atomic energy available for peaceful purposes and preventing its use and the use of all other engines of mass destruction as weapons of war.

This Commission is composed of the members of the Security Council and Canada, when we are not a member of that Council. Now that we have become a member of the Council, it is as such that our representatives will continue to act on the Atomic Energy Commission and the work of that Commission is closely connected with the work the Security Council will have to accomplish to implement the resolution adopted last December by the General Assembly, looking to the general regulation and reduction of all national armaments.

All these are also matters upon which there are diverging views between the representatives of the Western democracies and those of the U.S.S.R. and the other countries where Communistic regimes have been installed.

The U.S.S.R. and its satellites want the atomic bomb outlawed at once, and all those in existence done away with and destroyed. The Western democracies agree that atomic energy, as a weapon of war, should be outlawed and all atomic weapons done away with and destroyed, but they want that to be done as part of, and in compliance with, an agreement whereby an International Commission will be established with sufficient autonomous powers to see to it that atomic energy can be used for peaceful purposes, and for peaceful purposes only, and that there can be no evasion by any nation which would threaten the safety of the nations which do comply with the regulations of the International Commission. The vesting of such powers in the International Commission is objected to by the U.S.S.R. again on the ground that it would be an abridgment of national sovereignty.

Well, there are many on our side who prefer that to exposing their national sovereignty to the dangers of any one-sided disarmament scheme or one based upon "scraps of paper" without efficient inspections and control.

General McNaughton has been Canada's representative from the start on this Atomic Energy Commission and I can assure you from reports I have received from many sources that he, and the small staff assisting him in this work, have carried on in a manner which justifies the reputation we enjoy among many nations of taking an objective international view of our duties and responsibilities, and of favouring those policies, and only those policies, which are good for Canada to the degree and in the manner in which they are good for all other nations concerned.

It is in this same spirit that we will approach our duties and our responsibilities as a member of the Security Council and I suggest there is no reason to fear that we will not in that Council maintain our reputation for fair international objectivity in the views we will express and the proposals we will support.

In a speech which I made in Ottawa on the 12th of September, and in which I announced that we had informed other members of the United Nations of our candidacy for membership on the Security Council, I stated that in doing so we realized that if elected we would be confronted with new and onerous responsibilities, we would become involved directly with such questions as the Greek border dispute, the Indonesia problem and the like, and that in spite of these difficulties, we were stating our willingness to serve because we still believed that the best hope for mankind lay in outlawing war and in the establishment of a World Organization for the maintenance of peace.