

month the five Western members of that Committee, of which Canada is one, have been engaged in intensive preparations for the forthcoming negotiations.

I am not, of course, at liberty to divulge any of the details of the plans which are being developed for presentation in the ten-power talks. However, I would like to take this opportunity to discuss for a moment the relationship between the new Disarmament Committee and the United Nations, which under the Charter is responsible for developing plans for universal disarmament. I believe it useful to emphasize, particularly because there is some public confusion on this point, that the new ten-nation Disarmament Committee was not established as a United Nations body, although the four-power agreement to set it up has been endorsed by the United Nations. Moreover, the Committee will avail itself of United Nations conference facilities and services in Geneva; the United Nations Secretary General will be represented at the meetings; and the Committee, on the recommendation of the United Nations General Assembly, will consider the United Kingdom and Soviet disarmament proposals made at the last session of the General Assembly. Thus there is a close connection with the United Nations, even though the new Committee was not set up from New York.

It is obvious that the problem of disarmament involves primarily the countries of the Warsaw Pact and the members of NATO. Under these circumstances, it was logical that representatives of these countries should have been given the initial responsibility for dealing with disarmament. The ten-power Committee is balanced between the East and West with five NATO countries and five Warsaw Pact countries represented.

In the light of abortive efforts in the past to make progress towards general disarmament in United Nations groups, which were either so large as to be unwieldy or so unbalanced as between East and West as to frustrate genuine negotiation, there is, I believe, justification for assigning the initial responsibility for a new effort to a small group of balanced composition.

For the time being, its link with the United Nations will be enough to ensure that the concern of the whole membership of the United Nations in disarmament will be kept alive. During this phase, it seems to me that Canada has a special responsibility to keep in mind the interest and anxiety of all member states in the question of disarmament, and Canada intends to bear this in mind.

As progress is made in disarmament it will, I think, become necessary to set up an international disarmament body under the United Nations. At the outset, any disarmament body would almost certainly be preoccupied with the verification and control of agreed measures of disarmament. In the first instance, these control procedures no doubt will have to be in the hands