

sible to go on to a general disarmament agreement. The agreement on nuclear tests would have gone forward even if there were no subsequent general agreement on the general disarmament.

Mr. NUGENT: The minister still refers to the three nuclear powers. Where does France fit in?

Mr. GREEN: These test negotiations have been under way for nearly three years. When they started France was not a nuclear power and is not yet a full nuclear power. The position of France is one of the complicating features at the present time.

Mr. NUGENT: Since France is the only one doing any testing recently, what are the arrangements made to check the nuclear testing and how does France fit into this scheme, or has there been any attempt in this direction?

Mr. GREEN: France is taking the position simply that she is going right ahead with nuclear tests regardless.

Mr. NUGENT: Has any power on the western side attempted to offer France any inducement such as an option on nuclear information achieved by others in an attempt to get her to desist in her independent testing.

Mr. GREEN: I am not able to say what representations have been made to France by the other nuclear powers. She has been condemned in the United Nations for these tests, and Canada voted against the tests.

Mr. NUGENT: We can understand how any nation which feels it has suffered in prestige a little likes to be as self-sufficient as anyone and not be secondary to any nation which happens to possess nuclear knowledge. Has Canada made any attempt in any way to try to persuade the other powers to salve France's feelings and bring her into the nuclear family?

Mr. GREEN: In view of the fact that she has nuclear weapons, any move of that kind would have to be between the United States and France.

Mr. NUGENT: I can understand how any concessions would have to be made by the other nuclear powers, but I wonder whether we have done anything to persuade the other powers to give a little to France.

Mr. GREEN: No.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions. The minister would like to exhaust all avenues so far as disarmament is concerned before proceeding further.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): To follow up the line of questioning which just has been pursued, what would be your reply to this question: If Canada and other NATO members were to accede to the French proposal, namely for a group of three to exercise greater power in NATO—a proposal made by General de Gaulle some time ago, and I am not saying that we should—would that be an inducement for them to take part in the nuclear test talks?

Mr. GREEN: I do not know that. Canada certainly would not agree to any proposal of that kind.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): No.

Mr. GREEN: We are against a directorate in NATO.

Mr. SMITH (*Calgary South*): Mr. Chairman, do you propose, once you are through with disarmament, to take separate subjects and deal with them until they are finished?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): In the event that the nuclear test talks in Geneva fall down and they become part of general disarmament talks, will we continue to take the position that we are in favour of cessation of tests with or without controls?