

## NATO Ministerial Meeting — Istanbul

ON the invitation of the Government of Turkey, the foreign ministers of the fifteen NATO countries held their annual spring meeting in Istanbul from May 2 to May 4.

Canada was represented by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Howard Green; the Canadian Permanent Representative to the North Atlantic Council, Mr. Jules Léger; the Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. N. A. Robertson; Lieutenant-General E. L. M. Burns, the Canadian representative on the ten-nation Disarmament Committee; the Canadian Ambassador to Turkey, Mr. Benjamin Rogers; and officials from the Department of External Affairs.

The major task of the ministers was to consider Western preparations for the forthcoming East-West summit meeting, with particular reference to the problems of disarmament, Germany and Berlin, and East-West relations. By way of preparing for the discussions in the Council, separate meetings of the foreign ministers most directly concerned with these problems were convened on May 1 in Istanbul to look over the reports of the working groups concerned with preparations for the summit. The Secretary of State for External Affairs represented Canada at the May 1 meeting of the five foreign ministers whose countries are members of the ten-nation Disarmament Committee.

*Mr. Green's report to the House of Commons on the preparatory meeting and on the NATO Ministerial Meeting, as recorded in the House of Commons Debates of May 9, follows with the text of the final communiqué of the conference:*

### Statement by Mr. Green

... I thought it might be helpful if I were to make a brief report to the House concerning my visit to Istanbul. There were two meetings held there, one a week ago yesterday.

The first was a meeting of the foreign ministers representing the five Western countries which are members of the ten-nation Disarmament Committee. The purpose of this first meeting was to prepare advice for the three Western heads of government who are to participate in the summit meetings commencing on May 16 in so far as the question of disarmament is concerned; also to consider what progress had been made in the Disarmament Committee itself and what suggestions should be made to the negotiators acting on behalf of the five Western powers, and finally to prepare a report on disarmament to the NATO Council which was to meet during the succeeding three days.