

The position of the Canadian representative on the Atomic Energy Commission, moreover, has been that atomic warfare cannot be prohibited or international development of atomic energy assured, except on a basis which provides adequate security for all nations. Since the principles whereby these two objectives may be realized have been incorporated in the majority reports of the Atomic Energy Commission, Canada has supported these reports. It was for this reason that the Canadian delegation introduced a draft resolution, in the Security Council in June, 1948, directing the Secretary-General to transmit the reports of the Atomic Energy Commission to the General Assembly. The Canadian delegate also introduced a resolution in the Political Committee of the General Assembly in October, 1948, recommending the acceptance of the report as a basis for further progress towards a solution of the complicated problem of preventing atomic warfare and freeing the world's resources of atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

The Canadian delegation has also associated itself with every effort to explore the possibility of agreement between the Soviet Union and the other members of the Atomic Energy Commission. Therefore, the Canadian delegation agreed to the inclusion, in its original proposal submitted to the Political Committee of the General Assembly, of a provision that the Five Great Powers and Canada should meet to consult together in order to determine if there exists a basis upon which an agreed solution might be found to the problem of the control of atomic energy, in particular, by the removal of the political difficulties which, at present, constitute the main obstacle to agreement.

CANADA AND THE UNITED NATIONS 1949, pp. 28-31:

Only three days after General Romulo had opened the Fourth Session of the General Assembly with the expression of his fervent hope that it might go down in history as the "Peace Assembly", President Truman announced that an atomic explosion had recently taken place in the Soviet Union. On the day of this announcement, Mr. Vyshinsky made the first of a series of propaganda attacks on the Western countries, which did nothing to promote the atmosphere of compromise and conciliation for which the President of the Assembly had hoped, but intensified the acrimony of the "peace" debate, of which the international control of atomic energy was perhaps the focus, and of the atomic energy debate itself.

The deadlock acknowledged in May 1948, in the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission as final by the General Assembly meeting in Paris in 1948, which had requested the Commission to see what could be done, either in the Commission as a whole or by informal meetings of its permanent members, to break new ground in an effort to reach agreement. Both methods were tried without success. The deadlock continued; but some useful work was accomplished before the Fourth Session of the Assembly met. The Atomic Energy Commission's vast documentation was organized by the Secretariat in a handier form, at the suggestion of the Canadian Representative. The majority had the opportunity, in the talks held privately among the six permanent members, to make a new approach to the whole problem by condensing their proposals into the form of a few general principles. The document, subsequently published as a report to the Assembly by the five Western members, provided the best available summary of the reasons why the majority believe that the Soviet Union is holding up an agreement on atomic energy for political reasons, despite the fact that scientists of all countries consider the control of atomic energy for peaceful purposes to be technically feasible.