



CANADA

## STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OTTAWA - CANADA

60/16

### NATO AT ISTANBUL

A statement by Mr. Howard Green, Secretary of State for External Affairs on May 9 to the House of Commons

... I thought it might be helpful if I were to make a brief report to the House concerning my visit to Istanbul. As Hon. Members are probably aware, 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.

We took General Burns with us to Istanbul because, of course, our main interest there was the question of disarmament, and as you know he is heading the Canadian delegation on this important work. The progress that has been made to date by the Disarmament Committee has not been very satisfactory. The Canadian Government is anxious that there should be a great deal more done when the Committee resumes its sittings early next month.

At this first meeting I urged upon the other four Western foreign ministers that everything possible must be done to get these negotiations moving; that it was very important to demonstrate to the five Eastern nations on this ten-member Committee and also to all other nations of the world that the West is very serious in its attempt to bring about a disarmament agreement.

We made several suggestions which perhaps would be of interest to the House. One was that the summit meeting should give direction to the ten-member Committee, that instead of