

CANADIAN DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
(FIFTEENTH SESSION)

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Statement on Disarmament by Mr. W.B. Nesbitt,
Q.C., M.P., Chairman of the Canadian Delegation,
in the First Committee, on March 30, 1961.

Mr. Chairman:

The Canadian Delegation heartily welcomes the statements just made by the distinguished representatives of the United States and the Soviet Union. The conclusions reached as a result of recent consultations represent a most important step forward. We are confident that in the more harmonious atmosphere which has been created, further efforts will be made by all states concerned toward the universally-desired goal of peace and disarmament.

We particularly welcome the statement of the distinguished representative of the United States expressing readiness to resume detailed negotiations on disarmament in July of this year. Ever since the unfortunate breakdown of the Ten-Nation Committee last June, Canada has worked for the resumption of negotiations on this vital subject at the earliest possible time. It is cause for the greatest satisfaction to all members of the United Nations to learn that serious efforts in this direction are now being made.

The decision to continue the exchange of views among the powers principally concerned is very important. I am sure that all my colleagues in this Committee will join with me in expressing the hope that these consultations will result in full agreement on a satisfactory forum for the negotiations and on a clearly defined framework of basic principles within which they should be conducted. Agreement on these important matters is essential