

(2) to give priority to early agreement on, and implementation of, (a) such confidence-building measures as President Eisenhower's plan for exchanging military blueprints and mutual aerial inspection, and Marshall Bulganin's plan for establishing control posts at strategic centres¹; and (b) all such measures of adequately safeguarded disarmament as are now feasible. The resolution at the same time suggested that account be taken of the French proposals for the exchange of information on military budgets and the allocation of savings resulting from disarmament for economic development, of the Eden proposal for a "pilot scheme" on inspection and control and also of Indian proposals regarding the suspension of nuclear tests and an "armaments truce". The Assembly recommended further that "scientific search should be continued by each state, with appropriate consultation between governments, for methods that would make possible thoroughly effective inspection and control of nuclear weapons material".

The purport of the General Assembly resolution coincided with the Canadian Government's disarmament policy in the light of recent developments. It was unrealistic to ask governments to agree to a complete but unverified prohibition of nuclear weapons since this would represent a gamble with national security. It would serve little purpose for any power to attempt to exploit for propaganda purposes the refusal of any country to take this gamble. On the other hand, as the Canadian Delegate put it "this does not mean that we should fold our arms and do nothing . . . let us proceed with as large and significant a measure of disarmament as is now possible". The setting up of an alarm system along the lines suggested by President Eisenhower and Marshal Bulganin might be the first step. In the meantime, the prohibition of nuclear arms subject to effective control should remain the basic aim, and research towards this goal should be diligently continued.

Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy

In December 1953, in a speech to the United Nations General Assembly, President Eisenhower proposed "that the governments principally involved, to the extent permitted by elementary prudence, should begin now and continue to make joint contributions from their stockpiles of normal uranium and fissionable materials" to an international atomic energy agency in order to further the development of atomic energy for peaceful purposes throughout the world.

This proposal was the subject of a protracted debate at the ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly. In the end, on December 4, 1954, the Assembly approved unanimously a resolution expressing the hope that the international atomic energy agency would be established without delay, and suggesting that once the agency was established it should negotiate some form of agreement with the United Nations. The resolution also provided for an international scientific conference to take place in 1955.

The International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy was held from August 8-20, 1955 in Geneva, and was attended by representatives of all governments which are members of the United Nations or the Specialized Agencies. The Specialized Agencies themselves were also represented. The Conference was concerned primarily with the development of atomic power and with the study of atomic energy in the fields of biology, medicine, radiation protection and fundamental science. It was an extremely successful Conference and was acclaimed throughout the world since it pro-

¹This plan originally put forward in the Soviet proposal of May 10 was reiterated in Marshall Bulganin's letter to President Eisenhower. In his reply the President indicated his acceptance of this plan.