



Prime Minister Trudeau at UNSSOD II.

fully operational at an early date and in advance of the treaty. Secondly, we will substantially increase research in verification. To develop effective verification procedures, Canada will be devoting more attention to utilizing expertise available inside and outside government....

"In the process of sifting the proposals before us, I hope that the Special Session will concentrate on what, with goodwill, is achievable. This Assembly has a right to expect sincerity of purpose and a determination to achieve concrete results on the part of all participants. A particularly heavy responsibility rests with the

two super-powers. They must give their undivided attention to negotiations to reduce their arsenals of nuclear weapons and should not deviate from that central objective by imposing political preconditions.

"This implies that the super-powers agree to communicate, to talk to each other, and to recognize the unquestionable common interest which unites them in a fundamental way; that is, the need to avoid a catastrophe which would destroy them both...."

(Copies of the full text are available from the Bureau of Information of the Department of External Affairs.)

NGO's and UNSSOD II

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) played an active part at UNSSOD II both inside and outside the Conference. Apart from the massive June 12 rally for disarmament, NGO's organized panel discussions, film presentations, coffee houses, etc. As well, on June 24 and 25, representatives of over 50 NGO's and 20 peace and disarmament research institutes addressed the General Assembly. Speakers included Sean McBride, president of the International Peace Bureau and 1974 Nobel Peace prize recipient; Lord Philip Noel-Baker, 1959 Nobel Peace prize recipient; Dr. Homer Jack, Chairman of the NGO Committee on Disarmament at UN Headquarters; Rear Admiral Gene Larocque, Director of the Centre for Defense Information and Frank Blackaby, Director of the Stockholm

International Peace Research Institute.

The Canadian speakers who addressed the plenary were Douglas Roche, M.P., International Chairman of Parliamentarians for World Order; Right Reverend Lois Wilson, Moderator of the United Church and representative of Project Ploughshares; Edgar M. Bronfman, President of the World Jewish Congress; Maurice Tugwell, Director of the Centre for Conflict Studies (University of New Brunswick) and Ruth Klaasen, Peace Research Institute-Dundas.

Fifteen representatives of Canadian NGO's, academics and other prominent individuals with an active interest in arms control and disarmament issues acted as consultants to the Canadian Delegation to UNSSOD II. The Canadian Delegation also provided briefing sessions for Canadian NGO's on issues relating to the Special Session.

SCEAND Report on Security and Disarmament Tabled

The House of Commons Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence Report on security and disarmament issues was tabled in the House on April 7, 1982. One of the main purposes of the study was to recommend policies which Canada should follow at UNSSOD II.

The organizational work, hearings and report-writing involving over 50 Members of Parliament took place between January and April, 1982 under the chairmanship of Mr. Marcel Prud'homme, M.P. Fifty-one meetings were held, fifty witnesses appeared before the committee, and over one hundred briefs were received. All the views brought to the attention of the Committee were taken into account in the preparation of its report.

Because the international security and disarmament question is such an immense one, the Committee has recommended that work on this issue should continue now that its own mandate is completed. It recommends that a new special joint committee of the Senate and the House of Commons be established to examine the report of the United Nations second Special Session on Disarmament and to consider further the general question of international security and disarmament.

The Committee Report contains six main chapters, starting with an Introduction which notes the importance of international security and how it is pursued through defence and disarmament policies. Other chapters set out facts and figures about world armaments; summarize the testimony heard by the Committee during its hearings; provide a history of the international quest for security and disarmament since 1945; and provide a brief history of Canadian disarmament policies.

The final chapter deals with Canadian policies for the United Nations second Special Session on Disarmament, and contains specific recommendations.

For a general strategy on arms control and disarmament, the Committee recommended: strong support for urgent negotiations and agreements on strategic armaments and intermediate-range nuclear forces in Europe; and the pursuit in UNSSOD II of rapid progress towards improvement in world political conditions; the establishment of confidence-building measures and crisis-management systems; and the negotiation of effective and verifiable measures of arms control and disarmament including a compre-