

Geneva talks towards a common position, although the progress here was less than in other areas I have mentioned. There would seem to be no compelling reason why, if negotiations were resumed, there should not be further progress, and eventual arrival at an agreed position. The approach through balanced concessions could be applied to this area of disarmament--that is, the elimination of nuclear carriers.

It is of the most vital interest to all nations of the world, not only to nations which would be most directly affected if nuclear warfare breaks out. The reason is that it is in multiplying ICBM's and perhaps other even more terrifying means of mass destruction that the armaments race is concentrated. This arms race goes on. Every month that is allowed to elapse without its being checked adds to tension and suspicion, and makes eventual disarmament more difficult.

Canada believes that a great responsibility lies on the nations possessing nuclear weapons and carriers to resume negotiations, with a view to eliminating the frightful menace which this form of armament presents to themselves and to the world generally.

In both the latest Western and Eastern plans, there is a provision for preventing the use of orbital satellites for carrying weapons of mass destruction. There is also provision for international control of the experimental launching of long-range missiles.

Could not both of these measures be put into effect without waiting until all the problems of complete elimination of nuclear carriers are solved? Such measures could be introduced without prejudice to the security of either West or East and they would help considerably to slow down the arms race. They would involve a mutual exchange of information through the agency of an international body. This would be one of the surest means of allaying fear and tension, which are the main-springs of the armament race. Why not undertake negotiations now--that is, joint technical studies--on these measures which will facilitate disarmament and of which the desirability is agreed in principle?

Another aspect of the disarmament problem on which there is still too wide a divergence of views, in spite of some degree of reconciliation, is whether it is necessary to work out the whole process of general and complete disarmament, from its first stage to its last, and set it down in the form of a draft treaty, before any steps can be taken actually to begin the disarmament process. That has seemed to be the view held by the Soviet Union and Eastern European delegations during the negotiations at Geneva. Canada's view has been that a start should be made by reaching agreement between the two sides represented on the Disarmament Committee--in regard to measures which they themselves can undertake, as a first stage in disarmament.