

Canadian scientific facilities to the extent which may be required. Out of this world-wide scheme, we hope to perfect knowledge of the consequences of radioactive exposure to the point where all mankind will be made aware of the exact hazards to which he is already being exposed.

IMPORTANCE OF TEST BAN

"The problem of radiation would, of course, become far more tractable if the testing of nuclear weapons could be banned. For more than a year now, representatives of the United Kingdom, United States and the Soviet Union have been negotiating in Geneva with a view to drawing up a treaty which would enforce an agreement on the discontinuance of nuclear-weapon tests. The opposition of the Canadian Government to any further nuclear tests is a matter of public record. Government spokesmen have returned to this theme time and again, both in the United Nations and elsewhere. Now, there are those who purport to see some incompatibility in the Canadian desire to see an end to testing and our support for the efforts of the United States and United Kingdom to achieve a workable inspection and control system in the Geneva negotiations with the Soviet Union. On the contrary, the Government welcomes the progress which is being made in these talks because it agrees, of course, that the present voluntary cessation of nuclear testing should be reinforced by a treaty prohibiting such tests. Without such a treaty backed by a system of verification which will ensure that its terms are being observed, nations will continue to live in the fear of a resumption of clandestine testing. But in the meantime, Canada has made it perfectly clear that she believes there should be no more tests, whether by the Russians, the British, the Americans, or the French or any other people.

"If there is need to assess accurately and, if possible, eliminate the risks which have already arisen on the earth and in the atmosphere through the testing of nuclear weapons, there is an equally pressing need to prevent the use of such weapons in outer space for it is, of course, in this relatively new medium that weapons of the greatest destructive power would be utilized in any future war. Here again Canada is making its contribution through service on a United Nations body, the 24-Nation Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. We are in the fortunate position of bringing to the work of that Committee the special scientific experience acquired through the work of the National Research Council.

"There are two ways of approaching the problem of outer space. One is to develop its peaceful uses through international co-operation, including the establishment of a rule of law designed to secure universal acceptance of the proposition that no part of space or of

any celestial body may be appropriated by or subjected to the jurisdiction of any state. The other approach is a natural corollary of the first -- the prohibition of the warlike uses of outer space.

"The second approach will clearly fall at some stage within the competence of the ten-nation Disarmament Committee -- of which I shall be speaking further in a moment -- and there will then need to be some co-ordination of the ten-power Committee's activities and those of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. This United Nations Committee, I might mention, is to meet in New York early in March to arrange the details of a scientific conference to be held this summer. Canada will, of course, be one of the participants.

"I have been discussing the efforts being made to bring under international control the most modern weapons and their means of delivery. Any progress in this field is to be welcomed, not only because there is a special urgency to the problem of weapons of mass destruction but also because it will help to maintain the impetus towards general disarmament -- the main responsibility for which will fall upon the ten-nation Disarmament Committee which is to begin its work in mid-March. For over a month the five Western members of that Committee, of which Canada is one, have been engaged in intensive preparations for the forthcoming negotiations.

TEN-NATION DISARMAMENT BODY

"I am not, of course, at liberty to divulge any of the details of the plans which are being developed for presentation in the ten-power talks. However, I would like to take this opportunity to discuss for a moment the relationship between the new Disarmament Committee and the United Nations, which under the Charter is responsible for developing plans for universal disarmament. I believe it useful to emphasize, particularly because there is some public confusion on this point, that the new ten-nation Disarmament Committee was not established as a United Nations body, although the four-power agreement to set it up has been endorsed by the United Nations. Moreover, the Committee will avail itself of United Nations conference facilities and services in Geneva; the United Nations Secretary General will be represented at the meetings; and the Committee, on the recommendation of the United Nations General Assembly, will consider the United Kingdom and Soviet disarmament proposals made at the last session of the General Assembly. Thus there is a close connection with the United Nations, even though the new Committee was not set up from New York.

"It is obvious that the problem of disarmament involves primarily the countries of the

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