

organ adequate to enforce the implementation of any disarmament program, its representatives have repeatedly refused to spell out in detail the various powers and functions which this organ would exercise. The Western Powers, on the other hand, have insisted that a knowledge of these details must precede any agreement on other disarmament measures.

It is not surprising that we have encountered so much difficulty in this matter of controls for it is indeed the crux of the whole disarmament problem. Not only does the proper exercise of control have important implications for the internal sovereignty of states but it presumes the existence of at least a measure of confidence and trust between nations. The problem has been further complicated by the fact -- and this is recognized even by the Soviet Union -- that the most thorough system of inspection could not, in the present state of scientific knowledge, ensure the complete prohibition of nuclear weapons.

It was in the light of these sober facts that the President of the United States, Mr. Eisenhower, proposed at Geneva last summer that his country and the Soviet Union exchange complete blueprints of their military establishments and provide each other with facilities for aerial photography within their respective countries.

Canada, and indeed the whole free world, welcomed this bold and imaginative plan as typical of a great man and of his country. There is little doubt that its implementation would greatly lessen the danger of surprise attack and would do much to establish an international climate that would make further progress in disarmament possible.

Unfortunately, the Soviet Union has not yet accepted this proposal but I would like to think that they have not entirely rejected the conception. A hopeful sign perhaps is the reported reaction of the Soviet Premier, Mr. Bulganin, to President Eisenhower's latest suggestion that -- assuming the satisfactory operation of an air and ground inspection system -- steps be taken to ensure that future production of fissionable materials would not be used to increase existing stockpiles of nuclear weapons. It is certainly to be hoped that the resumed meetings of the Disarmament Sub-Committee that are beginning in London today will reach some measure of agreement on this and other proposals that are before it for consideration.

The United Nations has wrestled with this question of arms reduction ever since its inception ten years ago. In fact, the first Resolution ever passed by the General Assembly, which called for the establishment of an Atomic Energy Commission, concerned itself with the subject of disarmament.

These efforts have now taken on added urgency with recent scientific advances in the development of intercontinental