

It does without saying that my appeal is directed also most earnestly to the nuclear powers. They have avowed their interest in reaching disarmament agreement, but have failed to attain it, and they should be prepared to welcome any assistance from any quarter. Our draft resolution offers a means.

In recent years anxiety has been growing about the spread of nuclear weapons. It has become increasingly apparent that the 95 non-nuclear nations would not allow the nuclear powers to retain indefinitely their nuclear monopoly. It is estimated that in a very short time no fewer than 15 countries will have the scientific and industrial capacity to join the nuclear club. That club is rapidly becoming, or may rapidly become, not an exclusive club of four members but the least exclusive club in the world, and we all know what that means. It is quite obvious that time is running out. With each passing day the dangers and the difficulties multiply. It is quite intolerable that the United Nations should simply watch and wait while the disarmament impasse continues and the threat to the survival of civilization grows more menacing.

S/C