

produced no positive result, I felt extremely unhappy, and I am sure that other representatives here felt the same way. Are we going to report on December 10 — only ten days away now — “no results” and again “no results” at the end of the year? If we are to get results, we must concentrate our efforts, as in any other line of endeavour.

The Prime Question

We believe, after listening to the debates in the seventeenth session of the United Nations General Assembly and speaking to many representatives who participated, the practically unanimous opinion is that stopping nuclear tests is the first question relating to disarmament which has to be solved; that the present situation is favourable for reaching an agreement; that the difference between the position of the U.S.A. and the U.K. on the one hand and that of the U.S.S.R. on the other has become very narrow; and finally, that unless agreement can be reached to stop nuclear testing, which would be a beginning of halting the arms race, there is not very much hope that agreement can be reached on any other disarmament proposals, at least not in the foreseeable future.

The preoccupations of the governments and members of the United Nations are clearly set forth in Resolution 1762 (A) and (B), adopted on November 6 — a little over three weeks ago. Most of the heads of delegations here were in the General Assembly at the time and all delegations have some representatives who were there. We heard from the distinguished delegate of Sweden, in his very valuable statement at our last meeting, a clear and accurate exposition of the essential features of Resolution 1762 (A). Nevertheless, I think it worth while to call to mind again some of the cardinal points in those resolutions. I would first call to the Committee's attention certain key points in the five last preambular paragraphs of Part (A), which is derived from the draft resolution sponsored by 37 nations. These read as follows:¹

Noting that, among the states represented in the Sub-Committee on a Treaty for the Discontinuance of Nuclear Weapons Tests of the 18-Nation Committee, basic agreement now prevails as regards the question of control of tests in the atmosphere, in outer space and under water,

Noting further that the proceedings of the 18-Nation Committee indicate a somewhat enlarged area of agreement on the question of effective control of underground tests,

Considering that the memorandum of 16 April 1962, submitted to the 18-Nation Committee by the delegations of Brazil, Burma, Ethiopia, India, Mexico, Nigeria, Sweden and the United Arab Republic, represents a sound, adequate and fair basis for the conduct of negotiations towards removing the outstanding differences on the question of effective control of underground tests—

The next paragraph refers to the declared intention of heads of states to find a speedy settlement of the remaining differences. And the final paragraph states:

Convinced that no effort should be spared to achieve prompt agreement on the cessation of all nuclear tests in all environments.

I would also like to call your attention to operative Paragraphs 2, 3 and 6 of the same resolution and operative Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Resolution 1762 (B),

¹The extent of General Burns quotation from Resolution 1762 was not clear from the telegraph reports of his statement.