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REVIEW OF WORLD CRISES

A Speech by the Secretary of State for External
Affairs, Mr. Howard C. Green, to the House of
Commons in Committee of Supply on September 7,
1961.

... Today we meet in the Canadian House of Commons
at a time of deep crisis. ... For some weeks tension has
been increasing steadily over Berlin, and within the last
week the Premier of the Soviet Union has announced a resump-
tion of nuclear tests. In addition to that, he has stated
that his country can develop a nuclear bomb with the power of
100 million tons of TNT, and that such a bomb could then be
hurled by rocket to any target in the world.

It was very interesting to read the first reports of
this shocking statement. ... I refer in particular to one
which is contained in the Ottawa Journal of September 2. It
is a dispatch from Moscow reporting an interview Premier
Khrushchov held with two members of the British Labour Party.
To them he is reported as having declared that he had decided
to resume the testing of nuclear weapons in order to shock
the Western powers into negotiations on Germany and disarmament.
In amplifying that statement, he apparently said that by taking
a tough line he hoped to make the Atlantic alliance agree to
merging the discussions at Geneva on a nuclear test ban treaty
with negotiations for general and complete disarmament.

There is no doubt that world opinion has been profoundly
shocked by the statement and also by the actions which followed
so quickly on the heels of the statement. I refer to the con-
ducting of four nuclear tests in the atmosphere, where of course
the radiation and fall-out are of the maximum degree. The
United States has now decided that in the face of these actions
by the Soviet Union, it must undertake nuclear tests, although
they are not of the same type and are reported as being such
that they do not produce fall-out. They will be tests in the
laboratory and tests underground.