

West political confidence or *détente*.

Canada's role

Following the easing of the 1962 Cuban missile crisis, the debates in the First Committee began to focus on partial measures which could be more readily agreed and which would help to improve international confidence. Canada played an influential role in negotiations on five agreements:

- (a) the Partial Test Ban Treaty of 1963 barring tests in the atmosphere;
- (b) the Outer Space Treaty of 1967 prohibiting the orbiting of weapons of mass destruction;
- (c) the Non-Proliferation Treaty of 1968 which I have already mentioned;
- (d) the Seabed Treaty of 1971 barring the emplacement of nuclear weapons on the seabed; and
- (e) the convention of 1972 banning biological weapons.

The First United Nations Special Session on Disarmament was held in New York from May 23, 1978 to July 1, 1978. The final document, produced by consensus, marked the high point of international agreement on the objectives and principles that should guide the quest for disarmament. It set out a program of action on the disarmament measures that could be agreed and implemented. It revamped the disarmament machinery and made education and information proposals. This remarkable final document deserves careful study as your committee gives special attention to Canada's participation in the Second Special Session.

I do not have the time to give an account of the role of the Canadian delegation at UNSSOD I.... However, I do think I should mention the important speech made at UNSSOD I by Prime Minister Trudeau. That speech will have relevance for the positions to be taken by the Canadian delegation at the Second Special Session.

Mr. Trudeau spoke of the philosophy of disarmament, of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, of the need for restraint in the export of conventional military equipment, about peacekeeping and security. The part of his speech which attracted most attention dealt with the strategy of suffocation. He noted that the SALT talks have produced some useful quantitative limits indicating the possibility of confirming or codifying an existing balance of forces. But he also thought the SALT talks indicated the difficulty of cutting back on weapons systems once developed and deployed. It was difficult, he said, to achieve the magic formula of equal security by placing limits on what are often quite disparate weapons systems.

Hence, he proposed four interlocking measures which, if agreed, would arrest the dynamics of the nuclear arms race at the laboratory stage. These were:

- (a) a comprehensive test ban agreement;
- (b) an agreement to stop all new strategic delivery vehicles;
- (c) an agreement to prohibit all production of fissionable material for weapons purposes; and

Interlocking measures