

zones of inspection proposed by the Soviet Union in their April 30 paper were unduly biased in favour of that country. As an alternative, they proposed to open to inspection a zone including either all of North America north of Mexico in exchange for all of the Soviet Union, or a more limited Arctic zone, together with a zone in Europe extending from the Atlantic Ocean to the Ural Mountains, or a more limited area.

The Western powers envisaged that the system of inspection which would operate in these zones would in all cases include aerial inspection and ground observation posts at principal ports, railway junctions, main highways, important airfields, etc., as agreed. There would also be mobile ground teams with specifically defined authority. It would be understood that ground control posts could be established by agreement at points in territories in the states concerned, without being restricted to the zones of aerial inspection, though the areas open to ground inspection would not be less than the areas of aerial inspection. An agreed Four-Power paper embodying the above proposals on inspection and control was tabled in the Sub-Committee on August 2.

On August 1 the Five Powers agreed to submit a brief progress report to the Disarmament Commission, in accordance with the provisions of the General Assembly resolution of February 14. The progress report cited the number of meetings held, listed the various proposals, working papers, etc., which had been submitted to date by the five delegations, and indicated that the Sub-Committee was continuing its work and would submit a further report. In addition, the report transmitted to the Disarmament Commission memoranda submitted at the invitation of the Sub-Committee by the Governments of Japan, Norway and Yugoslavia, which set forth the views of those states on questions relevant to disarmament and which had been the subject of discussion during previous meetings of the Sub-Committee. In reply to a similar invitation, the Government of India requested that an Indian representative be permitted to address the Sub-Committee, in order to clarify previous Indian proposals. Though the majority of the Sub-Committee agreed that it was not possible to make an exception of one state at that time, the relevant Indian proposals were circulated to the members of the Sub-Committee as a special Sub-Committee document.

On August 29, after detailed consultations which had continued for several weeks among themselves and with their NATO allies, the four Western powers tabled an agreed paper setting forth proposals for a first stage of disarmament.⁽⁴⁾ The plan comprised eleven articles calling for the following measures of disarmament: reductions to force levels of 2.5 million men for the United States and the U.S.S.R. and 750,000 men for the United Kingdom and France, to be followed by further reductions in two stages to levels of 2.1 million and 700,000, and to 1.7 million and 650,000 respectively; a reduction in armaments by depositing agreed lists of designated armaments in internationally supervised depots within the territories of the depositing parties; an obligation not to use nuclear weapons except in defence against armed attack; cessation of production of fissionable materials for weapons purposes and a beginning of transfers from weapon stockpiles to peaceful uses, both under effective international control; suspension of nuclear test explosions for a period of one year, and for a further period under certain conditions regarding control, including satisfactory progress

⁽⁴⁾ Text at Annex IV.