

## SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION

Set out below are a series of questions to stimulate discussion. You will see that it is not an examination paper on disarmament and arms control, and there are very few "yes" or "no" answers. Almost every issue resolves itself into a matter of priorities, of judgments, of an assessment of the risks taken by arms control measures and the risks taken by not controlling arms. Some of the questions have been raised in the background paper; others have not. And to all of them, what questions would you add?

### DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATIONS SINCE 1945

1. Why have international negotiations for disarmament been handled by the United Nations?
2. Is the UN the most suitable forum?  
the most efficient forum?  
the best of an unattractive series of alternatives?
3. Have negotiations been more successful when handled by smaller groups?  
Are the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) an example to follow because they involve only two nations?
4. Why has Canada been involved since the beginning?  
What has been our special contribution?
5. What are the chief obstacles to disarmament agreements:  
National pride?  
Lack of trust?  
Absence of an international security system?  
Technological developments and new weapons?
6. Is it possible to verify compliance with disarmament agreements?  
— completely?  
— partially?