

If limitation of nuclear test explosions is not possible under a disarmament agreement, we are prepared to try other methods, without delay, and without waiting for agreement on a comprehensive disarmament programme.

This means that while the abolition of tests would be part of a broader agreement, the limitation of tests could begin independent of the achievement of any such broader agreement. I can say, Mr. Chairman, that we warmly support that position taken by the United Kingdom. We feel that it is of the most vital importance to press ahead both with arms limitations and with political settlements wherever there is any hope of reaching such a settlement with the other side. To adopt any other policy would be to accept the proposition that security rests, and must continue to rest, merely on the fear of common annihilation. That policy--some people call it realism, but I think it is realism based on despair--is not a policy which I am sure will commend itself to the members of this committee, or indeed to the people of Canada. A substitute for that policy which may be essential at the present time for the avoidance of war something which is even more permanent and in the long run more satisfactory, would be a policy of mutual agreement, mutual trust and mutual co-operation. I hope that in the effort to reach that objective the Canadian Government will play a good part, and I am quite sure that if it succeeds in playing such a part it will have the support not only of all Members of this House but of the people of Canada.

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