



# STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OTTAWA - CANADA

No. 60/22

## AFTER THE SUMMIT COLLAPSE

An address broadcast by Prime Minister  
Diefenbaker on May 19, 1960.

... Why did Khrushchov destroy the hopes of mankind in the summit meeting? Was it, as he would have the world believe, because of the American aircraft over Russia? Yesterday, in the course of his press conference, he gave himself away when he revealed that this incident was only an excuse, for he said he intended to speak to the President about such flights when in the United States last September. As he said:

"I almost opened my mouth to speak of U.S. intelligence flights over Russia but the atmosphere was so convivial that I thought: Why raise this matter with this friend then?"

He has stated on another occasion that he overruled the wish of the military authorities to bring down an intruding plane.

### Khrushchov's Motive.

This removes any suggestion that the attitude he took at the conference was dictated because of the recent event. It would seem to indicate that he had decided some time ago to wreck the conference because he had found out that the United States, France and Britain would not meet his wishes if doing so meant sacrificing the entire population of West Berlin. He simply did not want the conference to take place even though he had asked for it for more than two years.

It would appear that he has been having difficulties with the military authorities at home and was also being opposed by the Communist Chinese in his expressed wish to follow a more peaceful policy. It is worth noting that Peking's leaders have been uttering some very frightening statements recently. Their Defence Minister stated that "hundreds of millions strong can overwhelm the enemy in the flame of an all-out people's war".