

assure the Committee that our country would be prepared to play an appropriate part in any arrangements that might be agreed on for maintaining verification apparatus for a comprehensive test ban, and we should be ready to engage in any discussions on this matter that might be proposed.

In a joint memorandum issued at the end of the session, the eight non-aligned countries outlined their position on the cessation of nuclear tests. The memorandum said that a comprehensive test ban would also constitute a measure toward the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. It noted the indications of improvement in the techniques of detection and identification of underground tests. The eight, it stated, "urge the nuclear powers to take immediate steps to reach an agreement to ban all nuclear-weapon tests". "They still believe", the memorandum went on, "that agreement on a treaty banning underground tests could be facilitated by the exchange of scientific and other information between the nuclear powers or by the improvement of detection and identification techniques, if necessary. Meanwhile, they reiterate their appeal to the powers concerned to suspend forthwith nuclear-weapon tests in all environments. In order to assist the nuclear powers in observing suspension of underground tests, the non-aligned delegations stress the advantages that would accrue from international co-operation in the work of seismic detection".

Non-Proliferation

One of the most important events of the session was the tabling on August 17 by the United States, supported by the other three Western delegations, of the text of a draft treaty to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons. This draft, the product of intensive discussion among Western countries, in which Canada played an active role, represented an important step forward in the work of the ENDC, as it provided a concrete text on which to focus discussion. It indicated that the West was prepared to negotiate seriously on this vital subject.

In a statement issued on August 17 welcoming the draft, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, said:

The Canadian Government supports these proposals and commends them to the serious attention of all governments and peoples. . . . Canada has for some time advocated an early beginning of serious negotiation toward international action to halt the spread of nuclear weapons. We prepared a draft treaty of our own for the purpose of discussion with our allies. In this way we intended to stimulate thought through friendly consultation with other governments and so help to encourage progress in this important field. . . .

It is gratifying that a number of ideas which the Canadian Government has been advancing over the past several months are reflected in the draft treaty which has now been tabled. The central one is a non-dissemination formula based on the "Irish resolution" of 1961, which called upon all states to conclude an international agreement to refrain from relinquishing control of nuclear weapons and from transmitting information necessary for their manufacture, with reciprocal obligations for the non-nuclear powers. There is also a provision for co-operation by signatories in applying international safeguards to all their peaceful nuclear activities. . . .

The heart of the Western position is that the formula in Articles I and II of the U.S. draft treaty effectively prevents the further spread of nuclear weapons. In drafting this portion of the treaty, Western representatives had very much in