

goal of an agreement stopping further test explosions, the problem of ionizing radiation would still exist. "There is", he said, "widespread concern that we should be able to assess more accurately than is now possible the nature and extent of the hazards resulting from the addition of man-made radiation to that which already occurs in nature." He went on to announce that Canada was "prepared to receive from other states radiation samples collected according to methods recommended by the Scientific Committee in consultation with appropriate Specialized Agencies, and to analyze such samples in the Canadian Government laboratories which handle Canada's domestic sampling programme. If other governments indicate their readiness to participate in such a co-operative programme of collection and analysis, the Canadian Government, as an initial offer, is prepared to receive and analyze on a regular basis, samples of air, water, soil and food from 20 to 25 foreign sampling stations in each category". The Governments of Japan and Norway announced similar offers. It was expected that other countries would follow suit in response to the invitation contained in the resolution.

Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

In accordance with the intention it had declared at the thirteenth session of the General Assembly, the U.S.S.R. did not participate in the 20-member *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space which met in New York from May 6 to June 25, 1959 under the chairmanship of Ambassador Matsudaira of Japan. The Governments of India, the United Arab Republic, Czechoslovakia and Poland, although invited to attend, were also not represented.

The work of the Committee, which studied intensively a number of technical and legal questions having a bearing on international co-operation in this complex field, was summarized for the General Assembly in a 37-page report. This document records, in addition to a variety of technical conclusions, two principal findings of special importance. The first recognized that "there is a need for a suitable centre related to the United Nations that can act as a focal point for international co-operation". The second states that "progress, plans and needs in connection with the peaceful uses of outer space should be reviewed again by the United Nations in about one year". The report also makes quite clear the generally accepted view that there is at present no need for a new international space agency.

At the fourteenth session, the main concern of the General Assembly, which Canada fully shared, was to find a formula for establishing a new committee with a composition acceptable to the countries most active in space research. In his statement on September 24 the Secretary of State for External Affairs recalled that two years had elapsed since the Canadian Prime Minister had urged that the passage of time should not be allowed to bring to the problem of outer space the complications which failure to reach agreement on nuclear weapons had brought to disarmament. Noting that the pace of scientific and technological progress is staggering to the imagination, Mr. Green expressed regret that the U.S.S.R. had not helped in the preparation of the *Ad Hoc* Committee's report and observed that the continued non-participation of the Soviet Union could not fail to limit the value of any proposals for further international co-operation.

After several weeks of discussions and negotiations, the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A. reached agreement on a committee comprising twelve Western countries (including Canada), seven members of the Soviet bloc, and five other countries (India, the United Arab Republic, Sweden, Austria and Lebanon), which would serve during 1960-1961. A resolution creating the