

Charles Flowerree, a former member of the Secretary-General's Group of Experts, addressed the problem of controlling multinational corporations. The fact is that the country, on whose territory a given corporation operates, does exercise some legal control over that company. Consider, he said, Union Carbide operating in India. If India became a signatory of a CWC, then the Indian government would be responsible for ensuring that Union Carbide did not manufacture any agents that were prohibited by the treaty.

However, said Flowerree, most private companies would not be interested in producing chemical agents -- there's not enough money in it. In addition, if they were caught, they would lose many legitimate industrial contracts for much more lucrative production. And, finally, they would lose their reputation.

POSSIBLE PROGRESS

Johan Nordenfelt is Director of Publications and World Disarmament Campaign Branch in the United Nations Department of Disarmament Affairs. He talked about UN activities in the area of verification. Recently, he said, there have been a number of allegations of use of CW in contravention of the 1925 Geneva Protocol. In late 1979 and continuing into 1980, there were allegations of use of CW in Cambodia. The Security Council passed a resolution giving the Secretary-General the authority to investigate those allegations. Unfortunately, he said, the investigation was hampered and no conclusive evidence could be found.

In 1982, another investigation was carried out in Southeast Asia, this time with the help of a group of "qualified experts." This was the first time this term was used; now it is the official term for these data collectors. The Secretary-General was asked, without the benefit of unanimity in the General Assembly, to devise a standard set of procedures for such investigations. A working group was set up to draft a list of procedures. Charles Flowerree, a participant in the workshop, had been a member of that original working group.