

year ago. At our meeting on October 20, we heard Mr. Federenko say, "There are no insurmountable difficulties for the solution of this problem" and later, "The Soviet Union is working consistently for the conclusion of an agreement on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons without delay." (A/C.1/PV1431, pp 7-10 & 11). Mr. Goldberg quoted what Mr. Gromyko, the Foreign Minister of the USSR, said after his recent meetings with President Johnson and Secretary Rusk. "Both countries, the United States and the Soviet Union are striving to reach agreement to facilitate conclusion of an international agreement on this question." And Mr. Goldberg also quoted what President Johnson said on October 13. "We have hopes that we can find some language that will protect the national interests of both countries and permit us to enter into the thing that I think we need most to do, that is, a non-proliferation agreement." (A/C.1/PV1431, p.26). I make no apology for repeating these statements, for they show, the Canadian delegation believes, the increased determination of the USA and the USSR to solve this problem, to come together on suitable terms for the provisions of a non-proliferation treaty. They show, and we have other indications, that there is a new spirit in the negotiations, a realization that the importance of achieving agreement on this sector of the disarmament problem greatly outweighs some of the considerations which have delayed progress heretofore. The Canadian delegation applauds that determination. We are heartened to learn that a new series of talks have been initiated to work out terms mutually acceptable to the USA and the USSR. We welcome the prospect of further meetings between the two major powers which, assisted by the discussions in this Committee and in the ENDC, may result in an agreed text acceptable to all states concerned-- the nuclear powers and the states which do not have nuclear weapons alike.

While this year's meetings of the ENDC recorded no spectacular achievements, it is generally conceded that the discussions have been most useful in clarifying the issues that lie before the committee. This was particularly true of the non-proliferation deliberations. Mr. Goldberg, in his address on October 20, outlined the areas where progress has been made: (1) progress towards understanding that collective nuclear defence arrangements do not and need not lead to proliferation; (2) progress in accepting the need for safeguards on peaceful nuclear activities; (3) progress in understanding the special problem of peaceful nuclear explosions; (4) progress in exploring ways to halt and indeed to reverse, the build-up of nuclear weapons stockpiles and delivery systems. We were encouraged by the generally high level of debate in the ENDC this year, and by the frankness of the exchange and by the helpful and constructive contribution of the non-aligned members of the Committee. In their joint memo on non-proliferation they expressed their concern