



# PRESS RELEASE

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Statement by the Secretary of State for External Affairs referring to the Labour Day address by President Eisenhower concerning the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

Since the end of the Second World War, Canada has directed its effort in the field of atomic energy toward the establishment of means to utilize it for peaceful and humanitarian ends. This has involved not only an active program of research and development and the production of radio-isotopes, but also participation with her wartime atomic partners, the United Kingdom and the United States, and with the other member countries of the United Nations, in seeking to find means of ensuring that this awesome new force would never again be directed toward destructive purposes.

The Canadian Government welcomed the proposals put forward by President Eisenhower last December for the establishment of an international agency under the aegis of the United Nations which would foster the growth and spread of the new atomic technology for peaceful use, and has observed with regret the refusal of the Soviet Union to consider them except on conditions which are unacceptable to the countries of the free world. However, Canada like the United States, believes that even in the absence of Soviet participation, an International Atomic Energy Agency along the lines proposed by President Eisenhower can usefully be formed by the nations willing to support its activities. Our country is in a position to make a useful contribution to the work of such an Agency and will be glad to do so.

As Canada and a number of other countries have already agreed in principle with the proposal to go ahead now with the formation of the international agency, it can now be expected that discussions will enter a new and more definitive phase.

There is, of course, frequent consultation between the Canadian and United States Governments, both on the political and technical aspects of President Eisenhower's proposals, and on other atomic energy matters of mutual concern. On Thursday of this week, for instance, Mr. W. J. Bennett, the President of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, will meet with Admiral Lewis L. Strauss, the Chairman of the United States Atomic Energy Commission. They will take advantage of the opportunity to discuss the proposed international agency, as well as other more technical atomic matters.

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