



STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OTTAWA - CANADA

No. 65/19

PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF NUCLEAR ARMS

Statement issued on August 17, 1965, by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, on the Occasion of the Tabling of Western Proposals for a Non-Proliferation Treaty in the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee.

Today, August 17, proposals for a treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons are being tabled at the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee in Geneva by the leader of the United States delegation. These proposals carry the general support of the Western countries represented in the ENDC. They derive from discussions and consultations over a period of months among a number of governments, in which Canada has played an active part. The Canadian Government supports these proposals and commends them to the serious attention of all governments and peoples and, more particularly, to those governments represented in the disarmament discussions at Geneva.

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. Since the resumption of the disarmament talks on July 27, there has been continuous and intensive discussion among the Western representatives at Geneva. These discussions have resulted in the new proposals for a non-proliferation treaty put forward by the United States representative today.

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.

Progress in the field of disarmament is a major policy objective of the Canadian Government. I am encouraged that it has been possible to reach agreement among the Western countries at Geneva on proposals which offer the prospect of some genuine advance in the vital field of non-proliferation. Clearly, general agreement on an international treaty is not yet in sight.

Long and difficult negotiations still lie ahead. However, Canada is prepared to join with other nations in a determined effort to achieve progress with a sense of the urgency which this important issue demands. During recent days, there have been some possible indications of greater flexibility in the attitude of the Soviet Union towards negotiation of a non-proliferation treaty. It is to be hoped that these indications will be translated into positive achievements. We now appeal to all governments, and particularly to the Communist powers, to give the earliest and the most careful consideration to the proposals made by the Western side.

ANNEX I

WESTERN NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY TABLED
AT EIGHTEEN-NATION DISARMAMENT COMMITTEE,
AUGUST 17, 1965

The Parties to this Treaty,

Desiring to promote international peace and security,

Desiring in particular to refrain from taking steps which will extend and intensify the arms race,

Believing that the further spread of nuclear weapons will jeopardize these ends,

Recalling that Resolution 1665 (XVI) of the General Assembly of the United Nations urges all states to co-operate for these purposes,

Desiring to achieve effective agreements to halt the nuclear arms race, and to reduce armaments, including particularly nuclear arsenals,

Reaffirming their determination to achieve agreement on general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Have agreed as follows,

ARTICLE I

1. Each of the nuclear states party to this Treaty undertakes not to transfer any nuclear weapons into the national control of any non-nuclear state, either directly, or indirectly through a military alliance; and each undertakes not to take any other action which would cause an increase in the total number of states and other organizations having independent power to use nuclear weapons.

2. Each of the nuclear states party to this Treaty undertakes not to assist any non-nuclear state in the manufacture of nuclear weapons.

ARTICLE II

1. Each of the non-nuclear states party to this Treaty undertakes not to manufacture nuclear weapons; each undertakes not to seek or to receive the transfer of such weapons into its national control, either directly, or indirectly through a military alliance; and each undertakes not to take any other action which would cause an increase in the total number of states and other organizations having independent power to use nuclear weapons.
2. Each of the non-nuclear states party to this Treaty undertakes not to seek or receive assistance in the manufacture of nuclear weapons, or itself to grant such assistance.

ARTICLE III

1. Each of the states party to this Treaty undertakes to co-operate in facilitating the application of International Atomic Energy Agency or equivalent international safeguards on all peaceful nuclear activities.

ARTICLE IV

In this Treaty:

- a) "nuclear state" means a state possessing independent power to use nuclear weapons as of (date).
- b) "non-nuclear state" means any state which is not a nuclear state.

ARTICLE V

1. This Treaty shall be open to all states for signature. Any state which does not sign this Treaty before its entry into force in accordance with Paragraph Three of this Article may accede to it at any time.
2. This Treaty shall be subject to ratification by signatory states. Instruments of ratification and instruments of accession shall be deposited with the Governments of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, which are hereby designated the depositary governments.
3. This Treaty shall enter into force on the deposit of instruments of ratification by ... (fixed number of) governments, including those of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America.
4. For states whose instruments of ratification or accession are deposited subsequent to the entry into force of this Treaty, it shall enter into force on the date of deposit of their instruments of ratification or accession.

5. The depositary governments shall promptly inform all signatory and acceding states of date of each signature, date of deposit of each instrument of ratification of and accession to this Treaty, and date of its entry into force.

6. This Treaty shall be registered by depositary governments pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

ARTICLE VI

1. This Treaty shall remain in force indefinitely subject to the right of any party to the Treaty to withdraw from the Treaty if it decides that extraordinary events related to the subject matter of the Treaty have jeopardized the supreme interest of its country. It shall give notice of such withdrawal to all other signatory and acceding states and to the United Nations Security Council three months in advance. Such notice shall include a statement of the extraordinary events it regards as having jeopardized its supreme interest.

2.years after entry into force of this Treaty, a conference of parties may be held at a date and place to be fixed by agreement of two-thirds of the parties in order to review operation of the Treaty.

ARTICLE VII

This Treaty, of which the Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited in the archives of the depositary governments. Duly certified copies of this Treaty shall be transmitted by the depositary governments to governments of the signatory and acceding states.

In witness whereof the undersigned, duly authorized, have signed this Treaty. Done in triplicate at the City of, the..... day of One Thousand, Nine Hundred and Sixty-Five.

ANNEX II

IRISH RESOLUTION

1665 (XVI). Prevention of the wider dissemination of nuclear weapons.

The General Assembly,

Recalling its Resolutions 1380 (XIV) of 20 November 1959 and 1576 (XV) of 20 December 1960,

Convinced that an increase in the number of States possessing nuclear weapons is growing more imminent and threatens to extend and intensify the arms race and to increase the difficulties of avoiding war and of establishing international peace and security based on the rule of law,

Believing in the necessity of an international agreement, subject to inspection and control, whereby the States producing nuclear weapons would refrain from relinquishing control of such weapons to any nation not possessing them and whereby states not possessing such weapons would refrain from manufacturing them,

1. Calls upon all States, and in particular upon the States at present possessing nuclear weapons, to use their best endeavours to security the conclusion of an international agreement containing provisions under which the nuclear States would undertake to refrain from relinquishing control of nuclear weapons and from transmitting the information necessary for their manufacture to States not possessing such weapons, and provisions under which States not possessing nuclear weapons would undertake not to manufacture or otherwise acquire control of such weapons;

2. Urges all States to co-operate to those ends.

1070th Plenary Meeting,
4 December 1961.

s/c