

“(b) A Commission for the control of the execution of the decision regarding the prohibition of the use of atomic energy for military purposes.”

The representative of France (Mr Parodi) intervened to emphasize, in his capacity as Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, that the general discussion on disarmament should not complicate or interfere with the work of that Commission which was being carried out in accordance with the decision of the Assembly.

The representative of Canada (Mr Wilgress) thought that the Soviet proposal did not go far enough. It stated the objectives of disarmament in general terms, but did not point the way to their attainment. Progress could be made only if practical measures could be agreed upon which would offer collective security, as effective as national forces and international safeguards, to ensure that nations which had disarmed would not be struck down by those violating their pledges. The Canadian delegation also felt that the Military Staff Committee should go full speed ahead in concluding agreements for the provision of military forces to be at the disposal of the Security Council under Article 43 of the Charter.

The representative of the United Kingdom (Sir Hartley Shawcross) said that his country was not prepared for any unilateral disarmament. His Government insisted on an effective system of collective security whose operation could not be prevented by any aggressive State and which could furnish aid to any State subject to attack. Also, there must be adequate control to assure that States were actually disarming and carrying out limitation agreements. There would be no point in cutting down a State's military air force if its civil aviation were expanded in a manner adaptable to military use. A present lack of rocket arms was no guarantee of security if machinery were set up for their swift production. The United Kingdom was ready to open all doors to an international system of control. Only under such a system of control, free from any veto, could the Soviet resolution be lifted out of the realm of propaganda and become a real hope for the world.

The representative of the United States (Senator Connally) said that proposals had been submitted to the Atomic Energy Commission by the representatives of the United States and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The Soviet proposal was for an agreement to outlaw atomic weapons, prohibit their manufacture, and destroy the present stocks of atomic bombs. As Mr Baruch had explained, this was also part of the original United States proposal, which provided that when an adequate system for control, including the renunciation of the bomb, had been agreed upon and put into effective operation, with punishments set up for violation of the rules, manufacture of bombs should stop, existing bombs be disposed of pursuant to the terms of the treaty, and the authority to be set up should be placed in possession of full information on the production of atomic energy.