

*«International Canada» is a paid supplement to **International Perspectives** supplied by External Affairs Canada. «International Canada» was published by the Canadian Institute of International Affairs and the Parliamentary Centre for Foreign Affairs until February 1982. In its present form, it continues the mandate to provide a comprehensive summary of Canadian government statements and political discussion on Canada's position in international affairs and a record of Canadian adherence to international agreements and participation in international programs. Each issue of **International Perspectives** will carry «International Canada» covering two preceding months. The first supplement covers only March 1982 and appears as part of the May/June issue of **International Perspectives**.*

Bilateral Relations

U.S.A.

Cruise Missile Testing

Following closely upon the conclusion of hearings of the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence, news reports this March of a U.S. proposal for testing unarmed cruise missiles in Canada raised a storm of protest from MPs and Canadian disarmament experts. One issue raised was the compatibility of allowing such testing with Prime Minister Trudeau's plan for "nuclear suffocation", introduced at the UN Special Session on Disarmament in 1978. Media releases from organizations such as Operation Dismantle and independent journalists pointed to the first strike capability of the cruise missile as a strategic delivery vehicle, indicating that the credibility of Canada's nuclear-free stance might be diminished.

Critics claimed that the granting of permission to use Canada as a testing ground would be contrary to the spirit of disarmament, a spirit that the Hon. Gilles Lamontagne *Minister of National Defence* had firmly supported in his testimony on security and disarmament issues before the Committee on February 25. He had then stated that no inconsistency existed between "contributions to the maintenance of the Western Alliance of forces sufficient to deter aggression and, if necessary, to defend the NATO area" and "our commitment to a vigorous arms control policy". Sheltering under the NATO protective nuclear umbrella, Canada might itself, territorially, remain nuclear-free. Mr. Lamontagne, while seeing Canada's arms reduction as balanced by an increased sophistication and refinement, emphasized that a "credible deterrence" depended upon the establishment of "rough parity", — thus the necessity of supporting NATO against the Warsaw Pact's numerical and technological edge. Only a multilateral arms freeze or reduction could prove effective. In his testimony, Mr. Lamontagne claimed that "unilateral disarmament is equiva-

lent to a submission of capitulation". Several Committee members, however, when confronted with the cruise missile plan, thought the distinction too fine, especially in light of the fact that it was their mandate to advise the government on disarmament policy in preparation for UNSSOD II this spring.

Conservative MP Douglas Roche (*Edmonton South*) accused both Mr. Lamontagne and the Hon. Mark MacGuigan *Minister for External Affairs* of "deceiving the Standing Committee" with a selective presentation of the government's policy on security and disarmament, having avoided mention of the Prime Minister's earlier call for a halt to flight testing. It was mentioned that Litton Systems Canada Ltd. had received a government subsidy for the manufacture of a cruise missile navigational component. Terry Sargent, NDP defence critic (*Selkirk-Interlake*), in a letter to the Minister of National Defence (*March 16*), asked for a disclosure of possible contract concessions in the purchase of new American F-18 fighter aircraft being linked to the proposed testing of cruise missiles.

Mr. MacGuigan, speaking in Parliament March 18, defended the missile testing on the grounds of Canada's need to support NATO's development of its position of strength in order to successfully negotiate international arms control. He reiterated his position, earlier outlined in testimony before the Standing Committee, that disarmament, being a process of balance and mutual reduction, could only be achieved, and maintained, multilaterally. The Committee had been told that Canadian security policy was based upon three aims: the deterrence of aggression through collective security arrangements; "active efforts to achieve equitable and verifiable arms control" (nuclear, chemical and conventional); and the support of peaceful settlements to international disputes. Advocating a non-proliferation regime, Mr. MacGuigan indicated that the importance of "international verification" would be emphasized at UNSSOD II. In response to a request from Pauline