

That the committee have the power to report from time to time, to send for persons, papers and records, and to print such papers and evidence as may be ordered by the committee;

That the committee have the power to retain the services of expert, professional, technical and clerical staff;

That the committee have the power to adjourn from place to place inside Canada and abroad and that, when deemed necessary, the required staff accompany the Committee;

That a quorum of the committee be twelve members, whenever a vote, resolution or other decision is taken, so long as both Houses are represented and that the Joint Chairpersons be authorized to hold meetings, to receive evidence and authorize the printing thereof, whenever six members are present, so long as both Houses are represented;

That the committee be empowered to appoint from among its members such subcommittees as may be deemed advisable, and to delegate to such subcommittees all or any of its power, except the power to report to the Senate and House of Commons;

That the committee or its representatives meet on occasions it deems fitting with the Special Joint Committee or its representatives charged with reviewing Canada's defence policy;

That the committee be empowered to authorize television and radio broadcasting of any or all of its proceedings;

That notwithstanding the usual practices of this house, if either the Senate or the House of Commons is not sitting when an interim report of the committee is completed, the committee shall deposit its report with the clerks of both houses; and said report shall thereupon be deemed to have been presented to both Houses;

That the committee present its final report no later than October 31, 1994; and

That a message be sent to the House of Commons to acquaint that House accordingly.

The Hon. the Speaker: It is moved by the Honourable Senator Molgat, seconded by the Honourable Senator Fairbairn:

That the Senate do unite with the House of Commons —

An Hon. Senator: Dispense!

Senator Fairbairn: Honourable senators, before proceeding with the motion, pursuant to rule 31, I would ask leave to modify

the motion by adding immediately after the fourth paragraph thereof the following:

That, notwithstanding rule 86(1)(b), the members to act on behalf of the Senate on the committee be the Honourable Senators Andreychuk, Bolduc, Carney, Gigantès, Kelleher, MacEachen and Perrault.

The Hon. the Speaker: Is leave granted, honourable senators?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, is it agreed to modify the motion?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Senator Fairbairn: Honourable senators, once again I am pleased to speak to a motion for the creation of a joint committee, this time for the study of foreign policy for Canada. I think many senators will agree that it is appropriate to undertake a special review of our foreign policy in light of the many changes that have taken place in the world in recent years.

As has been noted here and in other places, the end of the cold war has opened up new areas of opportunity, but it has also exposed us and other nations to great risks. There are new levels of complexity in our relationships with other countries. The simple fact that our former adversary, the Soviet Union, now consists of several independent and very different countries is only the most obvious manifestation of that change.

While issues surrounding those countries in particular have been in our minds most recently, there have also been other changes in the international arena which make this review both timely and necessary. Not the least of those changes is the enormous growth in our interdependence as nations.

As a middle power with limited economic and military influence, a middle power with a small population living beside an enormous country with perhaps the greatest mass of power in the world, we have a special challenge in maintaining an independent point of view while still being an active member of the international community.

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Canada, as all of us know, has traditionally filled that middle power role with great success and pride. We believe that Canadians want an active, independent, foreign policy, a policy that reflects our values and serves our interests as a nation. To produce such a policy, we believe that at this point in time, as has happened periodically in the past, we must again consult Canadians; in so doing we will fulfil one of our major campaign commitments in this area.

One aspect of that commitment to consult is already under way even today, and that is the occasion of the First Annual National Forum on Canada's International Relations. This forum, which is taking place at the Government Conference Centre, began yesterday and concludes today. It has brought together about