

On 25 April 1989, NDP Member Bill Blaikie emphasized the need for a treaty banning chemical weapons. Referring to an incident in Soviet Georgia in which "poisonous gas" had been used with fatal effect against demonstrators,⁴⁴ he told the House:

Unfortunately, it seems that the world is on a slippery slope to increased tolerance of chemical warfare, as we learned to our horror when Iraq employed chemical warfare on its Kurdish population in surely one of the most desperate acts in recent history. There has been much talk of the need for a treaty to ban all such chemical weapons, as well there should be. It is certainly needed, not just to prevent nations from using chemicals against each other but also to protect their own citizens. We urge the Government to actively promote such a Treaty.⁴⁵

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44 *Commons Debates*, 25 April 1989, p. 914.

45 *Ibid.*.