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FIRST ANNUAL REPORT ON EXPORTS OF MILITARY GOODS FROM CANADA

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today tabled in the House of Commons and at the United Nations, Canada's first annual report on exports of military goods.

Tabling of the report fulfils a commitment made by Mr. Clark in a speech to the UN on September 26, 1990, at which time he emphasized the importance of making arms transfers and procurement as transparent as possible.

"As the report points out, Canada's policy of tightly controlling exports of military goods has been scrupulously followed," Mr. Clark said. "Canada closely controls exports of military goods and technology to countries that pose a threat to Canada or its allies, countries involved in or in imminent threat of hostilities, countries under UN Security Council sanctions, or countries with persistent records of serious violations of the human rights of their citizens. In addition, individual applications for export permits are evaluated on a case-by-case basis, and are subject to ministerial review."

Mr. Clark added that Canada is advocating a World Summit on the Instruments of War and Weapons of Mass Destruction. This proposal aims at securing a statement of global political will condemning the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction as well as massive build-ups of conventional weapons, coupled with a comprehensive program of action to address these concerns.

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