

owners of these assault weapons could register to keep them without meeting any of the safety criteria of "genuine gun collectors."

As these guns have been obtained legally, I recommend that they be grandfathered to present owners as was the case with automatic weapons under the 1978 law. This would limit the number of weapons and the number of owners. In addition, owners must meet the criteria established for "genuine gun collectors".

### Semi-Automatic Weapons and a National Registry

The report deals only with those semi-automatics converted from automatic and those of military or para-military design. This leaves the regulation of most semi-automatic rifles untouched by the Special Committee. Some witnesses advocated a prohibition or restriction on all semi-automatic weapons. Studies have shown that they have a greater potential for multi-victim killings.

As restriction of semi-automatic weapons under the present law would effectively prohibit hunting activities, I recommend that all unrestricted semi-automatic weapons be registered as a separate class of weapons. (At present, only restricted weapons such as handguns are registered.) This would permit a better overall control over the use of firearms and would provide an information base for a more effective firearms control system. Gun owners would also benefit as their valuable firearms would be better protected against theft.

Numerous witnesses before the Special Committee recommended a full, national registry system for every firearm in Canada. The Special Committee fails to address these proposals in its report. The report does not even recommend a partial registry system for all firearms acquired after the new legislation is put into force.

I support the following proposal suggested by some members of the committee and the witnesses. All semi-automatics would be registered as above. All future firearms obtained using the FAC would also be registered at the time of purchase. Finally, every applicant for a FAC would be required to list all their firearms on the application. This would not place any additional bureaucratic burdens on firearms owners with non-semi automatic rifles who do not need a FAC at present. This would move us toward a long term goal of a full National Registry System.

### Magazine Sizes

The government's gun control package included a ban on all handgun magazines that can hold more than 10 cartridges and all magazines for semi-automatic centrefire rifles that hold more than 5 centrefire cartridges. This was considered by all the witnesses to be one of the most important elements of the proposal. The Minister said before the Committee that her