

NATO security policy, proven successful for more than 30 years, is to maintain a combination of conventional and nuclear forces at the level necessary to demonstrate that aggression in the NATO area would not pay. But this is not all. A further component of our policy is that we are also committed to reduce through realistic, balanced and verifiable agreements the level of both NATO and Warsaw Pact forces. Defence and deterrence on the one hand, and arms control and disarmament on the other, are two sides of the same security coin. They cannot be safely separated. They should not prudently be pursued in isolation from each other. It is through their mutual pursuit that we shall achieve balanced security.

We have to make all this clear to our publics. We must also explain to them just how each of our countries contributes to, and participates in, NATO's security policy. They must be reminded that our security is a collective one, and that the nuclear dialogue engages the interest of all of us. We all supported the December 1979 two-track decision, and we have all through our membership in the Special Consultative Group played a role, under the lead of the United States, in designing the Alliance's strategy for the Geneva talks.

Support for the "two-track" policy can of course take different forms. For our part, although intermediate-range missiles will not be stationed in Canada, we are negotiating with the United States an agreement under which unarmed Cruise missiles would be tested in Canada. Our purpose is to assist in the development of an improved deterrent posture for the Alliance, and to contribute an additional incentive for constructive arms control negotiations.

Inevitably, arms control in one area and in one type of force is related to arms control in other areas and other types of force. I warmly welcome the recent announcement by President Reagan of United States' readiness to begin negotiations on strategic arms this summer. I applaud the United States' determination to seek radical reductions and support the emphasis on reducing destabilizing systems. I also welcome the United States' willingness to keep its Allies fully informed and to consult them at every stage of the negotiations.

President Reagan's INF statement on November 18 and now his START proposal of May 9 are up to this point the principal