

Americans because we believe that represents a positive increase in the Western side of the arms race.

Looking at military expenditures as a whole, in the last four years, world military expenditures have increased by 4% per annum, whereas in the previous four years it was running at about 2% per annum. I think we ought to be concerned about that escalation, much of which is represented by the sale of quite sophisticated conventional weaponry to Third World powers and two countries have had their comeuppance in this policy. First of all, we ourselves in Britain, in the Falklands episode, parts of the Exocet missiles which did so much damage to our naval forces are made in my constituency, not something I like to talk about, but that is a fact. Our French colleagues again are fighting in Chad. There they are ranged against the weapons they sold to Libya. I think ideas have been put forward in the past, perhaps by Genscher from Germany, of at least starting by getting a UN register of arms sales, have made no progress at all, and if we don't even know what arms are being sold to who, then there is very little hope of going on to second stage which is trying to get some kind of control over the ever-increasing sale of sophisticated weaponry.

Now this brings me lastly to the three policy lines I would like to suggest for your consideration. The Brandt Report, like the Pearson Report before it, has been pretty largely ignored by world governments, but I think that there is a particular role for the NATO powers other than the United States in being able to link up with the Third World countries in persuading them that we have a common interest in trying to get the super powers to reduce