

# Prime Minister Trudeau Outlines Peace Initiative to Ease World Tensions: Stresses Highest Priority is to Create Stable Environment Between East and West

Prime Minister Trudeau hopes to enlist world leaders in a concerted effort to lessen tensions by bringing a firmer political will to the control of arms and the building of East-West confidence.

His initiative for easing world tensions was first outlined in a major speech before the Conference on Strategies for Peace and Security in the Nuclear Age, at the University of Guelph, Ontario, on October 27.

Mr. Trudeau said he was deeply troubled by "a widening gap between military strategy and political purpose" and "a superpower relationship which is dangerously confrontational."

In the next few weeks the Prime Minister discussed his proposals with Pope John Paul II and the leaders of Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Belgium and the Netherlands. On November 13, in a speech in Montreal, he expanded on his initiative, and in late November he went to Japan to meet with Prime Minister Nakasone and to New Delhi, where he met with Commonwealth Heads of Government.

Both speeches emphasized Canada's dedication to the Western Alliance and its partnership with the United States in defence of the continent, coupled with a realization that efforts to improve the prospects for peace must be global in scope.

He said he is convinced that "casting a fresh linkage — of military strategy with, but subordinate to, strong political purpose — must become the highest priority of East and West alike," and that this is a time of changing realities, a time to weed out obsolete ideas.

## Objective serves East and West

"Our central purpose must be to create a stable environment of increased security for both East and West. We must aim at suppressing those nearly instinctive fears, frustrations, or ambitions which have so often been the reason for resorting to the use of force."

He continued: "The responsibility for this lies partly, but by no means exclusively, with both superpowers. The United States and the Soviet Union outstrip the rest of us in their global reach, their armaments, and their leadership responsibilities. Naturally, they differ greatly — and I am not committing the fallacy of describing them as equals in any moral sense at all. Nevertheless, they breathe an atmosphere common

to themselves and share a global perception according to which even remote events can threaten their interests or their associates."

"What is essential to assert is that . . . as war is too important to leave to the generals, so the relationship between the superpowers may have become too charged with animosity . . . to be entrusted to them alone."

## New channel of discourse

Mr. Trudeau said that in addition to NATO's two-track approach of deployment and negotiation, a "third rail" of "confidence and communications" is needed — "a rail charging our dealings with the other side with a current of political energy."



In Montreal he said he had taken the elements of a program for political management of the current crisis to his European colleagues "for discussion and refinement" and had returned "with the assurance of their personal attention." The first element is the need "to establish as soon as possible in the course of the coming year, a forum in which global limits might be negotiated for all five nuclear-weapons states."

He said that forum should recognize the rights of the USA and the USSR as strategic equals and provide a mutually acceptable and stable framework for the relationship between the forces of the United Kingdom, France and China and those of the superpowers.

A second element of his program is the need to shore up the Non-Proliferation Treaty which comes up for renewal in 1985.

He said there should be incentives for Third World states to forego nuclear

weapons — a linkage between disarmament and development, and a full range of safeguards governing the transfer of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes.

The third element of his initiative, he said, recognizes the dangerous concentration of forces — conventional as well as nuclear — in the heart of Europe.

He said there is an apprehension that the more powerful Warsaw Pact forces could be tempted to gamble on a conventionally-armed attack.

He said the simple but expensive way to correct the imbalance would be for the West to increase its conventional forces, but this should be a last resort. "The far more sensible approach would be for both sides to reduce their conventional forces to mutually agreed levels." He said the Mutual and Balanced Force Reduction (MBFR) talks in Vienna pursue this goal and though there is sign of movement the pace is too slow. He said he has explored, with his colleagues in the Alliance, ways to give the MBFR talks fresh political impetus.

He said another negotiating forum will open in Stockholm in January, the "Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe." He said he has proposed that the merits of high-level political representation there be seriously considered.

## Strategy of suffocation

A fourth element, he said, flows from a strategy of suffocation he first proposed to the United Nations Special Session on Disarmament in 1978. The strategy would address arms control measures for new technologies.

The Prime Minister said he would introduce, in the appropriate forum, "papers calling for an international agreement to (a) ban the testing and deployment of high-altitude anti-satellite systems; (b) restrict excessive mobility of ICBMs; and (c) require that future strategic weapons systems be fully verifiable by national technical means."

He said the several elements offered represent a truly comprehensive approach to the crisis of peace and security.

"The choice we face is clear and present. We can without effort abandon our fate to the mindless drift toward nuclear war. Or we can gather our strength, working in good company to turn aside the forces bearing down on us, on our children, on this earth."