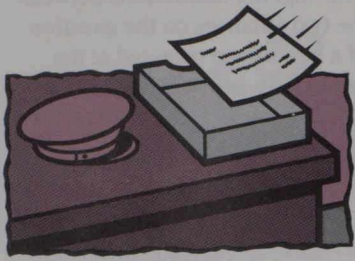


## DEFENCE NOTES



### NDP Defence Policy

■ On 31 July the New Democratic Party presented its response to the Government's White Paper on Defence. The NDP agreed with the White Paper that a "commitment-capability gap" exists and also came out strongly in favour of revitalizing the navy. As expected, however, there were substantial differences on other issues.

While the White Paper placed a great deal of emphasis on Canada's role in Europe, the NDP stated that "Canada can now make a more effective contribution to peace and security outside of NATO." The stationing of Canadian forces there is "no longer militarily significant." Instead Canadian troops should be brought home, upgraded and equipped for air transport so that they can respond "quickly and effectively." The NDP statement does not make clear the circumstances in which this mobile force would be used.

In the view of the NDP Canada should refuse to allow testing of US cruise missiles in Canada, terminate the use of Canadian territory for low-level flying exercises by the air forces of NATO allies, forbid the use of Canadian territory as a base for any element of the US Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) and decline participation in SDI or the US Air Defense Initiative (ADI).

Although the NDP advocates withdrawing from NORAD they suggest that Canada should negotiate a new agreement with the US that would apparently have the same purpose but under which Canada would assume full responsibility for "the conventional defence of its portion of the northern half of North America." This would involve "controlling" the new North Warning System (it is already

agreed that Canadians will operate the stations, it is not clear whether this means the NDP would have Canada buy the stations from the US, control the information they generate, or both). The North Warning System would then be supplemented by "Canadian-controlled" airborne warning and control aircraft (AWACS) and CF-18s.

According to the NDP, the navy should have a second batch of patrol frigates and a third should be considered. New anti-submarine helicopters should be purchased along with new long-range patrol aircraft and minesweepers. In the Arctic, fixed sensors should be combined with icebreakers and aircraft to provide surveillance. Instead of the nuclear submarines proposed by the Government the NDP statement suggests that twelve state-of-the-art conventionally-powered submarines could provide adequate monitoring of any possible intruder at the Arctic "choke points."

### White Paper Implementation Schedule

■ In an interview with David Cox, the Institute's former Director of Research, for an article in the October issue of *Canadian Business Review*, Perrin Beatty, the Minister of National Defence, indicated that a decision on the type of nuclear submarine will be made later this year or early next; a decision on the prime contractor will be made within the following twelve months.

In principle, the CAST (Canadian air-sea transportable) brigade commitment to Norway remains in place until a replacement unit is found. The Minister said that NATO is expecting to receive a recommendation on a replacement for the brigade by the end of this year.

### Reduced Service Life for the CF-18s?

■ The service life of Canada's CF-18 fighter aircraft is being questioned according to an article

in 17 August *Aviation Week and Space Technology*. The article reports that data gathered from the testing of one aircraft indicates that there are structural problems with the "aft wing attachment bulkhead." This component acts to counteract stresses borne by the wings during aircraft operation. In the worst-case scenario this problem could reduce the useful life of the aircraft by about one-third or from twenty years to twelve. In addition, the article says that turbine and compressor fan blades in the aircrafts' engines will have to

be replaced as much as twenty percent earlier than expected. The article says senior DND officials have called the tests and resulting estimates "entirely theoretical and premature at best."

A *Canadian Press* report of 18 August cites a senior officer from Air Command in Winnipeg as saying that CF-18 pilots have been instructed to fly the planes with restraint in order to extend the life of the aircraft. These instructions, the report continued, were part of the regular maintenance guidelines and not the result of tests

### ALLIANCE NEWS

#### Ministers Meeting

■ The Ministerial meeting of the North Atlantic Council took place at Reykjavik on the 11-12 June. The statement arising from the meeting noted the possibility of real progress being made in the condition of East-West relations, and in arms control in particular. The Ministers reiterated their wish to see all Soviet and US long-range INF missiles eliminated and supported elimination of short-range INF (500-1000 km) missiles as an integral part of an INF agreement. The communiqué stated that an effectively verifiable INF agreement of this nature would be considered an important element in "a coherent and comprehensive concept of arms control and disarmament." Other elements of a broader arms control agreement would include a fifty percent reduction in the strategic nuclear arsenals of the US and the Soviet Union, global elimination of chemical weapons, and the establishment of "stable and secure levels of conventional forces" in Europe.

#### Carrington Retires

■ NATO Secretary-General Lord Carrington, has announced he will be stepping down from his post in June 1988. Carrington has held the position since 1984. To date, two candidates have been officially nominated for the position by their respective governments: former Norwegian Prime Minister Kaare Willoch, and West German Defence Minister Manfred Wörner. The *New York Times* reported (2 July) that Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans has also been suggested as a possible candidate.

The article noted the apparent limitation on choices the Alliance has in choosing Carrington's replacement. Continuing tensions between Greece and Turkey precludes either nation accepting a citizen of the other, and the fact that Britain and the Netherlands have each provided two Secretaries-General in the past makes it difficult for them to nominate another.

#### New Military Head of NATO Takes Command

■ US Army General John R. Galvin assumed command from General Bernard W. Rogers as NATO's Supreme Allied Commander in Europe (SACEUR) on 26 June. General Rogers held the post for eight years. General Galvin comes to SACEUR from his post as Chief of the US