

years to further the cause of peace and to put before the world many of the ideas that are now included in the resolution before the House.

Canada's geographic location between two heavily armed superpowers is an obvious reason for concern by Canadians about nuclear war. From a domestic point of view, although Canada has the capacity to produce nuclear weapons, a political choice has been made not to do so. In 1969 this country decided that it was no longer appropriate for the Canadian Armed Forces to be equipped with nuclear weapons. The phase-out which began at that time has been completed this year. This is a major achievement of Liberal Governments and one which I think all Members of the House support.

Consistent with this policy and as a signatory to the non-proliferation treaty, Canadian safeguards on the sale of nuclear technology are among the most stringent in the world. The non-proliferation treaty came into effect in 1970 and is subject to review in 1985. It governs the transfer of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes and includes binding commitments against the use of that technology for military purposes. As recently as last year, my right hon. predecessor, Pierre Trudeau, called for remedial action to shore up the non-proliferation treaty in order to bring pressure to bear upon those who have not signed that treaty, thus preventing further horizontal proliferation of nuclear weapons.

In 1978 at the United Nations Special Session on Disarmament, Mr. Trudeau first proposed a strategy of suffocation. At that time Canada called for a comprehensive ban on nuclear testing, a halt to the flight testing of all new strategic delivery vehicles, a cessation of the production of fissionable materials for weapons purposes, and a limitation and eventual reduction of military spending for new strategic weapons systems.

The intent of this strategy was to suffocate new weapons systems in the laboratory, thus eliminating the need for countries to continue to outdo each other in evolving new weapons systems. It is important to note that these were not proposals for unilateral action. It was always intended that they would be the subject of mutual agreement. When these proposals were not acted upon and when the Soviet deployment of the SS-20 missiles in eastern Europe continued, Canada supported NATO's 1979 two-track decision to instal missiles in western Europe and to plan to pursue disarmament negotiations simultaneously.

In 1982 at the Second Special Session on Disarmament, Mr. Trudeau incorporated into the earlier policy a policy of stabilization which had two complementary components—the suffocation strategy and negotiations aimed at qualitative and quantitative reductions in nuclear arsenals designed to achieve a stable nuclear balance at lower levels. At that time Canada noted that the treaty on principles governing the activities of states in the exploration and use of outer space had become obsolete. Although it prohibited nuclear weapons in space, it did not deal with anti-satellite or anti-missile laser systems, the so-called "Star Wars" concept. Since such systems would have a destabilizing effect, Canada proposed a treaty to prohibit development, testing and deployment of all weapons for use in

outer space. It also called for the international community to address the verification question seriously in the 1980s.

Mr. Trudeau's peace initiative has a direct bearing on present developments between superpowers and also contains the grounds upon which I am proposing an amendment to this motion.

[*Translation*]

The central concept of Mr. Trudeau's peace plan consisted in adding a new and reinforced political will to disarmament negotiations. This new political will was to be reflected in a calming down of the political rhetoric engaged in by the two superpowers, and to a lessening of tension in both camps. As far as that goes, Mr. Speaker, we see that today there is a definite improvement over the situation that existed a year ago.

The peace plan also included a number of more technical elements, which I shall touch upon very briefly. First, the creation of a tribunal for negotiating global limits to be set on the arsenals of the five nuclear powers. Second, reinforcement of the non-proliferation treaty. Third, re-opening of negotiations on conventional forces in Europe, in order to bring them down to mutually acceptable levels. Fourth, measures that would pursue and update the suffocation strategy, namely, the ban on high-altitude testing and development of anti-satellite systems.

[*English*]

The present Government has made a commitment to continue and to expand on this initiative. My caucus and I expect concrete action by the Government in the very near future.

Among the initiatives undertaken by my predecessor was the creation of a peace institute. The object and purpose of this institute is to inject fresh ideas and to develop new and better solutions for a world troubled by conflict and uncertainty. In my view, a five-power summit of nuclear weapons states to negotiate global limits on their nuclear arsenals is an objective to be pursued by the new Government. In other words, the initiatives undertaken by my predecessor set a climate in this country and throughout the world. It reinforced the action by previous Liberal administrations in advancing the cause of peace.

The motion, which attacks that position, is one that is unacceptable to this part of the House. The motion before the House encompasses UN resolution L-32 which is to be voted on shortly. In committee Canada voted against the resolution. It did so in the company of some of its best friends and allies, including Belgium, France, Italy, Japan, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States.

It is the wish of our Party and my own personal wish that there be not simply a freeze but a significant, balanced and verifiable reduction in the level of nuclear arms in the world.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra):** We put it in this way as an item in negotiation because we believe that this is the