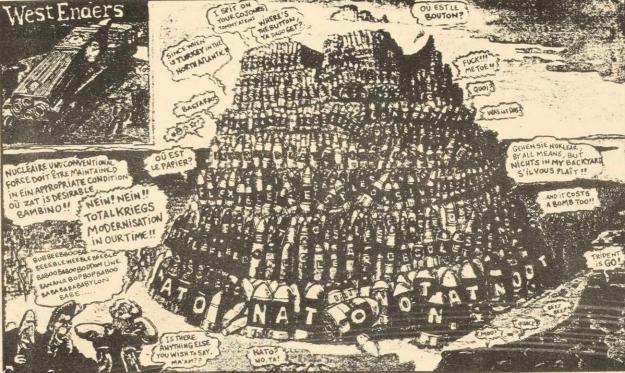
# Opinions are mixed over Canada's future in NATO







#### by Heather Hueston

uclear arms were the sticking point for panelists speaking last Thursday in the MacMechan Room on the future of Canada's role in NATO.

Executive member of the Nova Scotia New Democratic Party Tessa Hebb outlined her party's policy to ditch NATO as a step towards "a different world vision based on international law and order".

Hebb, co-chair of the NDP Foreign Affairs Committee, said because of the nuclear danger, the emphasis is no longer on national security, the main fear in 1949 when NATO was established, but on the common security of humanity.

"NATO plays no role in making the world more secure," said Hebb, adding it was not possible to reform the organization from within. Citing the INF treaty of 1983 with ended Pershing missiles in Europe, Hebb said NATO was one of the few organizations opposed to the treaty.

She said the NDP can't support NATO because of the doctrine of MAD, Mutual Assured Destruction, and "flexible response", which makes for an uncertain enemy and a tenser situation. The establishment of the Soviet Warsaw Pact in 1959 and the decision to bring in Pershings were both developments that alienated NDP support.

Noted local peace activist Muriel Duckworth also commented on NATO's change from a post-war agency to promote stability to a military organization. Its budget was 99 per cent military and 1 per cent for all the research in their original plans.

Saying a two-track idea of arming but preparing for peace was not possible, Duckworth said she "wavered between thinking NATO is irrelevant and thinking that it's strongly negative to Canada's needs."

John Lamb, president of the Canadian Centre for Arms Control and Disarmament, called for Canada to not only stay in NATO but be more outspoken in order to avoid being caught between the traditionally dominant United States and an increasingly vocal Europe. Citing pre-NATO attempts by Britain and the United States to sign up Canada in a bilateral military pact, Lamb said that left Canada as an "adjunct".

Lamb was pessimistic of Canada's chances of avoiding the "U.S. vortex" if it tried to survive ourside NATO by entering a Nordic-type pact. The Scandinavian countries would come under the same pressure to exclude Canada that Australia did to not cooperate with New

Zealand after that country declared itself unwilling to allow nuclear ships in their waters.

Lamb also said NDP policy to withdraw from NATO would never happen beause any elected NDP government would probably be a minority one which could not risk a non-confidence vote over such an issue. Lamb also said any attempt to pull out would become bogged down in the famous Ottawa bureaucracy, something that is "not talked about enough".

Another pro-NATO voice was Vice-Admiral (Ret.) John Fulton, who spoke of his experiences while Canadian rep to NATO headquarters. He said the current Soviet policy of glasnost is no reason to forget the differences in east/west philosophy.

"NATO forces have never stopped an anti-nuclear demonstration," said Fulton. "Not so the Soviets."

Fulton said that outside of NATO, Canada would lack "guidance" and access to critical data on nuclear weapons.

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VANCOUVER (CUP) — Elite institutions like schools of law and medicine and government bureaucracies need more radicalism, says a Harvard law professor who recently spoke at the University of British Columbia.

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Duncan Kennedy criticized these institutions for their rigid defense of the status quo, during a speech sponsored by the Vancouver Institute, a volunteer organization designed to bring the university and the Vancouver community together.

Radicalism, says Kennedy, "is believing that there should be very far-reaching and fundamental changes in institutions."

Kennedy said a radical in the area of health sciences, for instance, might support a move toward homeopathy (a system of treating disease by administering small doses of a drug which would cause a healthy person to have the symptoms of the disease).

Kennedy says radicals inside

the system are in a unique position to effect change. But, he says, they must "develop movements within the system to survive the reaction against them."

Opposition will come from the "collective dictatorship", which he characterized as white males between forty and fiftyfive years of age. Kennedy said these people have power and are considered to be "the people with the best medical or legal judgement".

Kennedy also heavily criticized the selection system of elite institutions.

Traditionally, "the criteria of selection to become a doctor or a lawyer... have unjustly had the effect of excluding racial minorities and women," said Kennedy.