

Even if we could afford it, the cost for Canada of going it alone would be very much greater, with no assurance that we would be any more secure. Arguably, we could end up being much less so. In any case how could we hope to enforce Canadian neutrality or even verify that it was being respected?

To opt out would be to give up the collective development of all security measures, which includes arms control, in the North Atlantic Alliance. A disarmed or neutral Canada would not have become part of the process of security and cooperation building in Europe begun with the Helsinki Final Act of 1975. We could not then have contributed to the success of the Stockholm Conference, nor have a seat at the table of the current Vienna meeting continuing the Helsinki process. We could not have become participants in European conventional arms control negotiations, and could not be part of allied consultations on nuclear arms control.

(SEE ALSO CONFIDENCE BUILDING, CONVENTIONAL ARMS CONTROL, MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS, NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION (NATO) AND SECURITY POLICY)

NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY (NPT)

Ambassador for Disarmament

(Downtown Rotary Club, Edmonton, February 25, 1988)

The maintenance and strengthening of the non-proliferation regime is critical both to stopping the spread of nuclear weapons to more countries and ensuring the safe transfer of technology and materials for the development of nuclear power systems. The Non-Proliferation Treaty, which Canada worked to uphold at the 1985 review, now numbers 131 states, making it the largest multilateral arms treaty in the world.

(SEE ALSO OBJECTIVES)

NORTH

Secretary of State for External Affairs, (Norway-Canada Conference on Circumpolar Issues, Tromso, Norway Dec. 9, 1987)

Our Government's response to the joint parliamentary review of international relations focussed on four broad themes of a "comprehensive northern foreign policy". These themes are:

- affirming Canadian sovereignty;
- modernizing Canada's northern defences;
- preparing for the commercial use of the Northwest Passage; and