

Q7. How are human rights factored in?

A. Export proposals for military goods to certain countries will trigger an automatic inter- and intra-departmental consultation process. Human rights will be considered by all officials involved in the consultation process. Ministers would be made aware of the results of this process and would personally consider any exceptions to the guidelines.

Q8. What was wrong with the phrase, "wholly repugnant to Canadian values" when describing governments which abuse the human rights of their citizens?

A. Since 1978 a number of countries had been identified whose governments have records of serious human rights violations, but none could be categorized as "wholly repugnant to Canadian values". The new definition is firmly founded in demonstrable fact, and thus should permit the identification of offending regimes.

Q9. Why are strategic goods to countries with bad human rights records not controlled as they were under the old policy?

A. Cabinet has reviewed this point carefully. It has concluded that exports of strategic goods are of concern only insofar as there may be a potential for their diversion to COCOM-proscribed destinations. Strategic goods are not (by their nature) used to abuse human rights. Military goods, particularly offensive military equipment, can be so used.

Q10. Are some military exports permitted to countries with bad human rights records?

A. The Canadian Government supports the right of nations to defend themselves against external aggression. What is objectionable to us is that equipment which should be used for such a purpose is turned against civilians within the country. Therefore, we are prepared to consider export

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