

instability which is inherent in a situation where nations are madly rushing to arm themselves with the latest weapons before somebody else or to catch-up with what the other person has done. That instability I think is not something which can be remedied by a further arms race, by continuing it or by escalating it. The only remedy for that kind of race is the agreement among countries to disarm.

Some might say that the alternatives are disarmament or destruction. I don't see the alternative as that stark. I see it rather as a choice between disarmament or insecurity. Always, of course, understanding that the disarmament that I mean is mutually-agreed disarmament. So that I see a real link between disarmament and security. Disarmament, I believe is a security imperative. We cannot have real security in the true and real sense of the word unless we have disarmament, unless we have that as a goal towards which we are progressing. The world cannot live on the point of constant frustration, constant instability, constant escalation of the arms race.

That I think is the choice that we have, the choice which is the path the government of Canada has taken. It's the path of seeking several things simultaneously, things which perhaps at first blush may not seem reconcilable. Of seeking at the same time the strength to protect ourselves but not feeling that we have to indulge in the latest search in weaponry and at the same time the search for disarmament. I would repeat that disarmament in our view must be by agreement. It must not be unilateral. I think that would be the worst possible choice. But I believe that there are enough similarly-minded countries in the world, and enough similarly-minded people in the world in all countries, that if we pursue this double goal with determination we will be able to increase very greatly the chances of world peace.

Canada has taken initiative before. We have been the country which has been most permanent in peacekeeping. And this really is another form of peacekeeping, this search for disarmament, and that will be one of the major goals of the government, because it is a goal without which we will all be the poorer, the world itself will be weaker and certainly without which the world would be permanently unstable. And I think that you can rest assured that there will be no flagging in our determination to press the countries of the world in the direction of as complete a disarmament as is possible at the present time. That is our goal and I hope that, with the assistance of groups such as yours, we can achieve that goal.