

*Routine Proceedings**[English]***INTERPARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION****23RD REPORT OF CANADIAN NATO PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION**

**Mr. Bob Hicks (Scarborough East):** Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 34, it is my pleasure to present to the House, in both official languages, the 23rd report of the Canadian NATO Parliamentary Association.

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**COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE****FOURTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENCE AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**Mr. Arnold Malone (Crowfoot):** Mr. Speaker, in accordance with its mandate under Standing Order 108(2), the Standing Committee on National Defence and Veterans Affairs has the honour to present its fourth report. Having undertaken a study of arms transfers, the committee tables its report entitled "World Summit on the Instruments of War and Weapons of Mass Destruction".

This study was undertaken with some urgency, as the committee believes that we have the duty to do what we can to prevent the types of mass arms build-up that allowed Iraq to invade its neighbour and to cause tremendous suffering.

As a part of its post-hostility proposals unveiled in February, the government proposed a world summit designed to highlight the problems of weapons proliferation and to develop plans to control it. In the weeks since the end of the war, the committee has held hearings with a number of experts on the idea of a world summit.

I am pleased to say the committee supports the proposal and has made some suggestions which we think could strengthen its impact. We hope our suggestions will be useful in this regard, and we will work to ensure that Canadian policies are consistent with the goals of the summit.

**SIXTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE STATUS OF DISABLED PERSONS**

**Mr. Bruce Halliday (Oxford):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present, in both official languages, the sixth report of the Standing Committee on Human Rights and the Status of Disabled Persons.

**FOURTH REPORT OF STANDING JOINT COMMITTEE FOR THE SCRUTINY OF REGULATIONS**

**Mr. Tom Wappel (Scarborough West):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present, in both official languages, the fourth report of the Standing Joint Committee for the Scrutiny of Regulations.

*[Translation]*

This report emphasizes the lack of legal authority for certain programs administered by the Department of National Health and Welfare and intended to authorize the possession of controlled and restricted narcotics and drugs.

*[English]*

The report notes that the department has been aware of the lack of authority for the regulations authorizing these programs for at least 15 years.

The report also notes that successive ministers have failed to seek parliamentary approval for legislation authorizing these regulations, despite the government's admission that the current regulations are illegal.

*[Translation]*

In their fourth report the committee categorically rejects the suggestion of the Minister of National Health and Welfare to the effect that departmental recourse to illegal regulations can be justified by his department's health protection mandate. The report points out that constitutional government principles make it mandatory for ministers and other public officials to enforce the law as it has been passed by Parliament, not as they would wish it to be drafted.

*[English]*

The fourth report calls for the revocation of the current regulations and their replacement by new regulations that conform to the Narcotics Control Act and the Food and Drugs Act.