

has been that it has been an insiders' club. It has been too much contained within the boundaries of this city and is considered to be an exclusive preserve of those who have acquired the aura and majesty of being "foreign policy experts" like the Member for New Westminster pretends to be.

At this point in time this institute can do something much more dramatic and profound for Canadians. There are thousands of Canadians who want the information. I recall when the Educators for Special Responsibility brought a small document they had prepared before task force committee hearings. It was a very simple document which made a comparison between the various arms levels of the Soviet Union and the NATO alliance. It compared the number of ships, missiles, submarines, guns, and tanks. One of the important things about it is that it obviously disputed the kind of phobia which is too common and current in this country among people who say that there is some kind of a red menace hiding out there and that there is a great missile, tank, or airplane gap. The paper provided basic information to show where there is parity and equilibrium in the arms area. It also pointed out the potential for use.

When Members of Parliament go to high schools in their ridings and talk to students they will find that that is the kind of information they would like to have. If that information were shared with students we would be able to develop a public outlook which would give foreign policy the momentum which it desperately needs.

In the statement by the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) on star wars on Saturday he missed the whole point. He said he is not going to get into the program but he did not understand why Canadians were opposed to it. They are opposed to it because they want this country to become a major peace seeker. They want this country to say a definitive no to star wars and to undertake other initiatives in the arms control area. They want to stop the new generation of arms development which star wars represents, a switch from a deterrent philosophy to a defence philosophy, which will bring the militarization of North America into place. They understand that. The Peace Institute now has the opportunity to provide the glaring light of good information and judgment that can be widely shared by all Canadians. That is why I feel it is important that we try to provide that kind of suggestion in this Parliament. I hope the Peace Institute or someone out there might be listening.

● (1720)

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest): Is the House ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: Question.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest): Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

RCMP Act

Motion agreed to, Bill read the second time and, by unanimous consent, the House went into committee thereon, Mr. Charest in the chair.

Clauses 1 to 10 inclusive agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill reported, read the third time and passed.

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ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND

Hon. Perrin Beatty (Solicitor General of Canada) moved that Bill C-65, an Act to amend the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act and other Acts in consequence thereof be read the second time and referred to a legislative committee.

He said: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to open the debate on second reading of Bill C-65, the Bill to amend the RCMP Act. The Bill is the result of a long review within the RCMP and among other Government Departments in which procedures for handling public complaints, internal discipline and grievance procedures within the RCMP were thoroughly examined. My friend, the Hon. Member for Burnaby (Mr. Robinson), was commenting to me before we began discussion of this Bill that this is the seventh effort that has been made for a Bill similar to this to be introduced in the House of Commons in the hope of getting it passed. I can certainly indicate that the process of review and study which has taken place over the years has been extensive and exhaustive.

Among other things, the proposed legislation will firmly entrench the rights of members of the Force with respect to matters like internal discipline and grievances, including the right to be represented by counsel at internal hearings within the Force. As important as this is, the Bill also ensures an equitable and independent process for dealing with complaints made by the public against members of the Force.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, many of the proposals contained in this Bill are based on the recommendations made by the Commission of Inquiry on public complaints, internal discipline and grievance procedures within the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The Commission was chaired by Judge René Marin of the Ontario County and District Courts.

[*English*]

I had the pleasure in my previous incarnation as the Minister responsible for Canada Post Corporation of working with Judge Marin who is currently Chairman of Canada Post Corporation, and in that capacity developed a very deep regard for his ability and his dedication to public service. It is perhaps ironic that the first Bill I would bring forward in my new capacity would be a Bill which had its root in the Marin Commission which produced its report on January 16, 1976. The report's recommendations are characterized by a remedial approach which seeks to ensure that the rights of citizens and members of the Force are clearly respected. Its findings and