

million to expand the Goose Bay facility.² As yet, no final decision has been made on the location of the NATO site.

Current Canadian Position

On 15 January 1987, in an address to the Empire Club in Toronto, Minister for National Defence, Perrin Beatty, outlined the rationale for Canadian membership in NATO. Mr. Beatty stated:

We are not in NATO and in Europe today simply out of a spirit of altruism. We are there because our interests as a nation require us to be there and because the loss of a free Europe would be a grave blow to our ability to maintain our democratic freedoms here in Canada. There can be no doubt that the defence of Western Europe continues to be critical to the defence of the Canada we wish to preserve.³

As was stated in the Defence White Paper of June 1987, the Canadian Government intends to relinquish its CAST commitment to north Norway, assigning the brigade to a role in West Germany instead. Noting that Canada's commitment to the defence of two different areas of Europe exceeded its capabilities, the White Paper went on to point out that the CAST commitment faced particularly severe problems:

The force requires some weeks to reach Norway, making timely deployment questionable, and it cannot make an opposed landing. Moreover, once deployed, it would be extremely difficult to reinforce and resupply, particularly after the start of

² Commons Debates, 1 March, 1988, p.13265.

³ Perrin Beatty, "Address to the Empire Club," Disarmament Bulletin, Winter-Spring 1987, p. 28.