

International peace and security concerns of joint declaration

Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and United States President Ronald Reagan issued a joint declaration regarding international security during their meeting in Quebec City on March 18.

The following are excerpts from the declaration:

We are neighbours and allies dedicated to the defence and nourishment of peace and freedom. The security of Canada and the United States is inextricably linked.

We have committed ourselves at Quebec to reinvigorate the defence and security partnership between the two countries. To reinforce deterrence and to reduce the risk posed by threat of nuclear attack, we agreed to strengthen continental defence, with particular reference to our joint participation in the North American Aerospace Defence Command. Accordingly, we concluded an agreement to modernize the North American Air Defence Surveillance and Warning System.... [See *Canada Weekly*, April 3, 1985.]

Full and regular consultation

In the spirit of mutual trust and confidence between our countries, we have committed ourselves to consult fully, frankly, and regularly on defence and arms control matters.

To permit systematic consultation and over-all review, at the most senior levels, of arrangements bearing on the security of Canada and the United States, we resolved that the responsible ministers of our governments will meet together on a regular basis. We have also agreed to make greater use of the Permanent Joint Board on Defence....

To provide for an effective use of resources and to aid both of our countries in bearing our share of the allied defence burden, we reaffirm the Canada/United States Defence Development and Production Sharing Arrangements and agree to strengthen our North American defence industrial base.... We will seek to improve our joint access to information relating to defence procurement; we will explore ways to establish a separate designation for mobilization base suppliers for US and Canadian firms, and we will seek to take greater advantage of flexibility inherent in second source suppliers. We will also undertake to establish a freer exchange between both countries of technical knowledge and skills involved in defence production, in order to facilitate defence economic and trade co-operation and joint participation in major defence programs....

Commitment in Europe

The security of Canada and the United States is inseparable from that of the European members of the North Atlantic alliance. We remain fully dedicated to preserving the security of the alliance as a whole through the maintenance of adequate military strength, an effective deterrent posture, and a stable balance of forces. We attach great importance

to our continuing commitment to station Canadian and United States forces in Europe....

We share a commitment to deepening the dialogue among the allies.... The cohesion and political solidarity of the alliance, maintained through frequent and timely consultations, remain the foundation for the protection of our common interests and values.

Significant, equitable, durable and verifiable arms control measures can play a role in strengthening strategic stability, maintaining our security at a lower level of force and armament, building trust and confidence between East and West, and reducing the risk of war. We have agreed to consider joint research efforts to strengthen our capacity to verify agreements on the control of armaments. We will work to gain agreement on effective measures in the international negotiations in Vienna, Geneva, and Stockholm, and we will strive, with the countries of Europe, to progress towards the aims enshrined in the Helsinki Final Act.

Arms reduction

We further agreed that we can have no higher goal than the reduction and eventual elimination of the threat to peace, whether by nuclear or conventional means. Our aim is ... to enhance deterrence of armed aggression and bring about significant arms reductions between East and West. We seek a more stable world, with greatly reduced levels of nuclear arms. The prospect of an enhanced ability to deter war based upon an increasing contribution of non-nuclear defences against offensive nuclear arms has prompted the US research effort embodied in the president's strategic defence initiative. We are agreed that this effort is prudent and is in conformity with the Anti-Ballistic Missiles Treaty....

Dialogue and negotiation between the United States and the Soviet Union at Geneva provide a historic opportunity to set East-West relations on a more secure foundation. We hope that these negotiations will lead to major steps toward the prevention of an arms race in space and to terminating it on earth, limiting and reducing nuclear arms, and, ultimately, eliminating them everywhere.

The security of Canada and the United States is linked increasingly with that of other regions in the world. We will therefore encourage and support the strengthening of multilateral and international mechanisms for the control and peaceful resolution of disputes. We will vigorously oppose the exploitation of regional instability, and promote ... the social, economic, and political development essential to the achievement of a stable and enduring peace.

Our one truly strategic aim is human freedom in a world at peace.



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Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney (right) and United States President Ronald Reagan exchange one of the agreements they signed at the Quebec summit, March 18.