TORONTO II/ONTARIO APRIL 23, 1986

The second Toronto meeting covered the spectrum of issues raised by the consideration of the Disarmament/ Development relationship including: a critical examination of Canada's arms control and disarmament policies, as well as foreign policy in general, the role of international law, the problem of terrorism, the role of women in contributing new dimensions to the debate, the need to strengthen the UN, Canada's role and bona fides in international forums, as well as the problems of regional security and the effect of military spending on the economies of developed and developing countries.

It was suggested that Canada act with more determination to achieve a CTB -- including the consideration of supporting the call for a conference to amend the Partial Test Ban Treaty. As well, Canada was encouraged to support the ISMA concept; the Canadian government was criticized for having supported U.S. actions Concern was expressed over a perceived shift in Canadian foreign policy which was putting more emphasis on placating the U.S. and enhancing defence-related commitments eg. LLAD, NORAD, Nanoose and Goose Bay whilst neglecting Canada's traditional role which was seen as more of a bridge-builder. Canada was criticized for not having responded positively to the Gorbachev proposals and there was also criticism regarding the level of funding for IYP. There was a strong plea made for Canada to establish an "independent foreign policy."

There was some discussion of the concept of "security." In the first instance, some raised the fundamental question: "Who is the enemy?" Whilst it was deemed necessary to respond to legitimate security concerns, it was suggested that weaponry would not necessarily enhance security. Therefore, there was a need to look at alternate forms of defence that would be non-confrontational and which would not fuel the arms race.

In discussing Canada's role, it was suggested that Canada be considered a "principal power" on the international scene. It was considered that relationships between nations today were asymetrical ie. an association of unequals. This type of diffuse international system was thought to provide greater opportunities for such principal powers to have influence -- through multilateral organisations as well as through bilateral and regional organisations. Canada was therefore deemed to be in a