

motions, for example, calling for a prohibition of "the deployment, testing, construction and transportation of nuclear weapons and associated equipment through and within Canada, [and] the export of goods and materials for use in the construction and deployment of nuclear arms," while calling on the Government to "encourage cities, provinces and states throughout the world to undertake similar action."<sup>3</sup>

On 12 April 1989, NDP Member Svend Robinson introduced Bill C-233, an Act to declare the Canadian Arctic a nuclear weapon-free zone. He stated:

At a time in which historic breakthroughs are being made in the struggle for peace and disarmament, I believe that this would represent a small step on the course toward disarmament. The Bill would declare the Canadian Arctic to be a nuclear free zone. Hopefully, ... this would be part of a global initiative to declare northern zones in the USSR, in Canada, in Scandinavia, and elsewhere to be nuclear weapons free zones, as the first step on the road toward a nuclear weapons free Canada, and indeed, a nuclear weapons free world.<sup>4</sup>

On 30 May, in recognition of International Disarm the Seas Week, NDP Member Bill Blaikie addressed the issue of military activity in the oceans. As the number and type of exercises and activities increase, he argued, instability and the potential for disaster grows. He stated:

The Canadian Government has virtually ignored the Pacific in this regard. The French continue nuclear testing in the South Pacific, US led naval exercises such as PACEX in the North Pacific expand, and visits by American warships to British Columbia harbours increase in number and duration.

Canada, as a Pacific nation, must begin addressing the dangers posed by militarization of the Pacific and promote regional co-operation in disarmament.

Indeed, we must act urgently to disarm all our oceans to preserve the integrity of the environment and maintain peace for future generations.<sup>5</sup>

On 8 June NDP Member Lynn Hunter raised the issue of nuclear waste in the Pacific Ocean resulting from the dropping of a nuclear bomb by a US Air Force bomber in 1950. External Affairs Minister Joe Clark replied that the Government was aware of the incident, and remarked that where there were nuclear weapons there were going to be accidents. Canada, he said, had to accept this as a price for deterrence:

There is also an issue in this country as to whether Canada should continue a practice, in place for some long time, of supporting North Atlantic Treaty Organization arrangements by allowing foreign ships to dock occasionally at Canadian docks. We have decided that it is in the interest of the deterrence

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<sup>3</sup> *Commons Debates*, 31 August 1987, p. 8627.

<sup>4</sup> *Commons Debates*, 12 April 1989, p. 401.

<sup>5</sup> *Commons Debates*, 30 May 1989, p. 2320.