

## STATEMENT OF DISSENT

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BY

LIBERAL PARTY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Liberal members of the Committee strongly disapprove of the content and recommendations of the Interim Report of the Special Joint Committee on Canada's International Relations on Canada's participation in SDI. The Committee has abdicated its responsibility to Canadians by deciding not to answer this issue specifically. Simply passing the matter back to the Government without a firm recommendation only continues present uncertainty, and is a betrayal of all the witnesses who testified under the assumption that their participation would be reflected in specific advice and recommendations presented to the Government. Furthermore, the text and analysis of the Interim Report do not even accurately reflect the nature of the testimony of the majority of witnesses. Nor does it reflect the genuine consideration of all members of the Committee. Instead, it is purely a result of the inability of the majority Party to reach a conclusion.

Members of the Committee had requested that more time be permitted for the consideration of the SDI issue. However, the Government demanded that a recommendation be made by the 23rd of August. Even given the shortness of time, the overwhelming evidence heard by the Committee has enabled Liberal members to reach a specific and carefully considered conclusion.