

**CHARLOTTETOWN/P.E.I.  
APRIL 17, 1986**

Discussion in Charlottetown revealed diverse approaches to the Disarmament and Development relationship. Some expressed concern about apparent paradoxes between Canadian Government actions and its efforts for peace, its contribution to the perpetuation of alliances, and the polarization of issues, thought and alliances which was pushing Canada into a non-independent position. A focal point tended to be the perceived militarisation of the Maritime region -- with particular emphasis on the recent decision to establish a Litton plant on the Island. As well, there was virtually unanimous concern expressed over U.S. actions in Libya, U.S. pursuit of "military rather than diplomatic solutions" to problems and Canada's "complicity" in U.S. actions. Several participants presented prepared statements/briefs.

Some urged Canada to distance itself from U.S. positions, to encourage the U.S. to engage in dialogue in these matters -- including the problems of Central America -- and to utilize more fully the machinery of the United Nations.

Concern was expressed in regard to Canada's perceived strong linkage to the U.S. in all matters of foreign policy -- including what was termed Canada's "increasing role in nuclear deterrence strategies." Many believed that Canada's traditional ability to influence international relations in a constructive manner was being undermined by Canada's clear support of U.S. policies.

Several people raised the fact that the Green Paper stated that Canada's traditional alliances -- NATO, NORAD -- were not up for review in what was supposed to be a wide-ranging review of Canada's international relations. This was seen to be at variance with Mr. Clark's invitation to the peace movement to "challenge assumptions." Some suggested that the evolving global system with, for example, the emergence of a new international economic order, would force Canada to shift from its traditional alliances and blocs and re-align itself with those nations outside these blocs which represent the "bulk of humanity."

Some suggested that Canada's ability to work for peace and development was hampered by traditional relationships. It was recommended by some that Canada transfer its allegiances and resources from NATO to the U.N.