

The outcome of the INF negotiations has reaffirmed the validity of NATO's December, 1979, "double-track" decision. It underlines the important role Alliance unity and solidarity have played throughout. The difficult decisions taken over the past 8 years on the issue of INF have had a direct bearing on the successful outcome of these negotiations. Canada is satisfied with the results and looks forward with anticipation to similarly successful conclusions to other arms control negotiations currently underway.<sup>2</sup>

In his cross-Canada speaking tour in December 1987, Canada's Ambassador for Disarmament Douglas Roche drew out some of the broader implications of the signing of the Treaty:

Clearly, the agreement to eliminate all medium and shorter-range nuclear missiles (INF) is a breakthrough in re-building East-West relations. For the first time an entire class of weapons will be destroyed. Although the agreement will eliminate only 3 percent of the world's nuclear arsenal, its political significance is enormous. The bilateral negotiating process has, in fact, achieved a concrete result.<sup>3</sup>

### Parliamentary Comment

In the House of Commons on 8 December 1987, comments were heard from representatives of each Party in regard to the signing of the INF Treaty. Progressive Conservative Member Alex Kindy spoke of the need to remain wary of the Soviet Union's record in complying with international agreements:

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<sup>2</sup> DEA, News Release No. 245, 8 December 1987.

<sup>3</sup> SSEA, Statement 87/71, 8 December 1987, page 1.