

As in the past, the consultations we've had with a wide range of Canadian groups will be essential to the success of the Moscow, Paris and Copenhagen meetings of the Conference on the Human Dimension. Our delegation in Vienna was one of the strongest and this reflects, in no small part, the thoughtful and informative contributions we've received from across Canada. When the Vienna meeting is over, we'll have opportunities for assessing our progress and charting our course. The same public interest expressed through the widest possible consultations will help us make the most of these three meetings on the Human Dimension. We are determined that the Soviet Union meet the same standards of openness regarding the rights of the Canadian media and interest groups as has prevailed at the Vienna Meeting.

Negotiation - and we've done a lot of it in the last decade - has always been one side of the two-track strategy which has guided the policies of the Western alliance. The second part has been - and remains - a militarily credible deterrence against aggression and intimidation. One lesson which history has taught us on numerous occasions is that negotiation based on mutual respect for each other's strength often succeeds. Negotiation from weakness cannot.

Western solidarity has therefore both military and political elements. We must be prudent but imaginative. To that end we maintain a highly professional and active Embassy in Moscow; we are constantly assessing our relations with the Soviet Union to determine how our relations can best be expanded and enriched. But prudence suggests that we avoid euphoria regarding Soviet intentions and measure accomplishments not statements. Prudence demands that we examine each new Soviet proposal with a careful eye to see how it affects our own vital interests. Prudence requires that we in the West remain clear-headed about what our most cherished ideals of peace, political freedom and respect for human rights really mean. Prudence demands that we maintain a credible military and political defence of these values.

Canada, as an ally, must continue to honour its obligation to make a contribution to the defence of the West. This will require active participation in NATO forces. It will require that we support the viability of the American strategic deterrent which underpins NATO's security. For example, we cannot shirk our responsibility to permit the continued testing of air launched cruise missiles over Canada. These constitute an important part of that strategic deterrent, the part which assures that no attack could go unpunished.