



technological developments or the impact of currency fluctuations and commodity prices. Closer integration of the Soviet Union into the world economy is also in the West's long-term interest. It is well to remember, however, that it is the global economy that is open and the Soviet economy that is closed. We call upon the Soviet Union to adjust its economic practices so that it may take advantage of the many opportunities that are open to it in Canada and elsewhere.

The Canadian Contribution

I believe there are five essential principles by which Canada should be guided as we enter this new and path-breaking phase of East-West relations.

First, we must do everything possible to promote greater communication between the peoples of East and West. Through visits, through cooperation in the Arctic and in cultural exchanges, through trade, we can do much to break down the walls of distrust and suspicion.

Second, we must continue to make a full and effective contribution to collective defence, alongside our friends and allies. Working together and maintaining a strong deterrent, in conjunction with dialogue, has brought us this far; it can take us even farther. Canada is doing its part, as the Defence White Paper shows.

Third, I reaffirm our goal of vigorously promoting progress in arms control and disarmament. The objectives in the nuclear, space, chemical and conventional field that I set out in 1985 are as valid today as they were then. We will continue to work in every forum available to us — in NATO, in the Conference on Disarmament, in conventional arms talks — to achieve this purpose. We may not be at every negotiating table, but our commitment and expertise will be brought to bear wherever they can contribute effectively.

The goal in all these areas is stability; stability at lower levels of arms, and stability in the relationship between offence and defence.

An enduring security structure, however, requires a broader basis of confidence than we have had in the past.

Canada's fourth principle, therefore, is to encourage a more constructive Soviet role internationally. We welcome a world in which the Soviet Union is a committed, responsible partner, whether in political or economic matters. We encourage this, and look to the Soviet Union to match its words with action.

Fifth, we will continue to stress the human side of East-West relations. Canadians believe deeply that families wishing to be reunited should be permitted to do so. We believe in religious freedom, the right to emigrate and the right to dissent. We will continue to raise our voice on these matters at the Vienna Meeting on European Security and Cooperation. And we will not cease until we are satisfied that international standards are being met.

Canada rejoices in the agreement signed in Washington on Tuesday. We salute the leaders who had the courage to take this step. We commit ourselves to work to reduce barriers between East and West, to create a safer, saner world for ourselves and those who will come after, and to establish habits of cooperation instead of confrontation.

But a world which must contend with pressing economic, social and environmental problems will not wait forever for us to succeed. The Treaty signed on Tuesday in Washington shows that with hard work, resolve, and common sense and purpose, we can prevail.

It is a grand beginning, but a beginning nonetheless. Let us get on with the challenge ahead."

SSEA Declares INF Agreement an Historic Achievement

On December 8, 1987, the Department of External Affairs issued the following communiqué.

"The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today expressed his great pleasure at the signing of the historic agreement between the USA and the USSR to eliminate all ground-based Soviet and American intermediate-range nuclear missiles globally. Mr. Clark said: 'This agreement is an unprecedented breakthrough in efforts to reverse the nuclear arms spiral and engage in actual reductions in nuclear arms rather than just their limitation. The intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) accord will result in the complete elimination of an entire category of nuclear missiles and is therefore the first nuclear disarmament agreement in modern history.'

The terms of the INF treaty, particularly its verification provisions, are significant and extremely important. For the first time, the Soviet Union has agreed to the establishment of a permanent monitoring site on Soviet territory manned by USA

personnel. The associated inspection regime is a rigorous one involving, in the beginning, up to 20 challenge inspections per year. The concept of a prior exchange of agreed data has also been accepted and satisfactorily implemented. Finally, the need for asymmetrical reductions to common levels has been recognized as the USSR will eliminate four times more warheads than the USA. All of these measures have been Western priorities in arms control for many years and have important implications for other arms control and disarmament negotiations.

'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 eight 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.'"