

policy on NATO by Liberal Member Andre Ouellet. Mr. Ouellet stated:

It should... be emphasized that two different concepts of NATO are involved here: the militaristic approach of the Tory Government, and the peaceful and responsible approach of the Liberal Party. The Government has insisted on the need for a strong Canada that is capable of defending itself. We agree but the Liberal Party recognizes that in the world today, a defence policy based on defence, not on offence, is a legitimate part of a comprehensive approach. We feel that as a member of NATO, Canada should continue to do its fair share but also continue to express its views on peace in a multilateral context.<sup>18</sup>

In April 1988, after conducting a review of its defence policy, the NDP released a report entitled "Canada's Stake in Common Security." The report qualified the proposal for Canadian withdrawal from NATO presented in the Party's July 1987 policy paper on defence by stipulating that an NDP Government would not undertake such action during its first term in office.<sup>19</sup>

The NATO-Warsaw Pact conventional military balance was also the object of comment in the House. On 21 September 1987, in the wake of the news regarding the possibility of a superpower agreement on Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF), Conservative Member Reginald Stackhouse asked Minister of National Defence Perrin Beatty:

Will the Minister advise the House what consideration NATO members are giving to closing the conventional arms gap between the Warsaw

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<sup>18</sup> Ibid., p.13431.

<sup>19</sup> Canada's Stake in Common Security, Report by the International Affairs Committee of the New Democratic Party of Canada, 16 April 1988.