

undertaken on a mutually agreed basis by both superpowers and should be combined with significant reductions in strategic offensive forces....We welcome the assurance by Secretary of State Shultz that the USA administration considers premature any decision on deployment of a ballistic missile defence at this point.³

In his speech before a meeting of the North Atlantic Assembly in Quebec City, Prime Minister Mulroney stated that strategic defences must meet the criteria outlined by Mr. Nitze - cost effectiveness, survivability, and affordability - along with two other criteria: "extreme care must be taken to ensure that defences are not integrated with existing forces in such a way as to create fears of a first strike" and "we cannot allow strategic defences to undermine the arms control process".⁴

Parliamentary Comment

NDP member David Orlikow asked the Minister of State for Science and Technology about National Research Council funds being used to finance Canadian participation in SDI research. Mr. Oberle replied: "...the Hon. Member's premise is wrong. The Government is not actively involved with any aspect of the SDI project in the United States."⁵

NDP member Derek Blackburn pursued the question of the limits of permissible SDI research under the ABM Treaty and said:

...is it not fair for us to ask the Government not to support that private research in case that private research does result in the abrogation of Clause 5 of the ABM Treaty?⁶

³ DEA Statement, 87/14, 5 Mar. 1987.

⁴ Office of the Prime Minister, "Notes for an Address Before the North Atlantic Assembly", 23 May 1987, p. 3.

⁵ Commons Debates, 14 Oct. 1986, p. 338.

⁶ Commons Debates, 21 Oct. 1986, p. 581.