

sensibilities—and so does the public—there is a group in the middle, the military–industrial complex, that is opposed. This is a sandwich with cement in the middle.”

Since our return to Canada, the Committee has received evidence that the internal Soviet opposition to nuclear testing may be having an effect. During a recent meeting with a Soviet parliamentary delegation visiting Canada, Rafik Nishanov, Chairperson of the Soviet of Nationalities, said there was no plan to transfer nuclear testing to the North. Citing “strong internal pressures”, he said that, instead, the goal of the Soviet Government was to make an accommodation with the United States that would put a stop to all testing. Unfortunately, the latest indications are that the United States remains unwilling to support a comprehensive ban.

Apart from the issue of nuclear testing, Canada has many other interests in developing channels of communication and programs of cooperation with the Soviet Union in the Arctic, and indeed there have been agreements in place for some time. It was a matter of great concern to us, therefore, to be told by officials of the Arctic and Antarctic Institute that when it came to cooperation on the environment the two sides were taking a long time to get down to work. Furthermore, it was suggested politely that the problems were not entirely on the Soviet side. The Deputy Director of the Institute explained that there was good cooperation among scientists but that projects, such as one that would involve the Oceanographic Institute in Sydney working on an ice station, had been held up by delay in getting the necessary approvals in Canada. “We have perestroika in the USSR, but we are discovering that the speed of change here exceeds the speed of change in Canada”. It was recommended that the political, including the parliamentary, levels in the two countries get involved to speed things up.

*A Conference on Arctic Security and Cooperation.* There is an urgent need to develop and act upon a circumpolar political agenda by creating a Conference on Arctic Security and Cooperation, in effect an Arctic equivalent of the CSCE. Such a multilateral, regional forum would continually address several “baskets” of Arctic issues, including: security and arms control issues, the indigenous peoples, scientific cooperation, environmental, economic and cultural development. To energize the process, **the Committee recommends that the Parliament of Canada propose and be prepared to organize and host a Circumpolar Parliamentary Conference with the aim of creating a permanent Conference on Arctic Security and Cooperation. The Parliamentary Conference could build upon the results of the Circumpolar Environmental Conference held in Moscow last year.**

### **Canadians in the Soviet Union**

There is a final matter concerning Canadian relations with the Soviet Union which demands the Government’s immediate attention, and which, if left unattended, may vitiate