

On 10 March 1988, Canadian Ambassador to the CD, de Montigny Marchand, reviewed some of the outstanding verification issues relating to a chemical weapons convention. Ambassador Marchand also expressed Canada's satisfaction with recent moves by the United States and the Soviet Union on the question of data exchange. Finally, he announced that Canada intended to submit working papers to the CD on the international inspectorate for a chemical weapons convention.¹² On 31 March 1988, Canada tabled one such document entitled "Factors Involved in Determining Verification Inspectorate Personnel and Resource Requirements". The paper addressed the factors which should have an impact on the size of the inspectorate and technical support staff, associated costs, and related issues.¹³

Parliamentary Comment

On 22 March 1988 Conservative Member John Oostrom made a statement in the House condemning the use of chemical weapons in the Iran-Iraq war. He said:

...there has been a dangerous escalation in the Iran-Iraq war. Strong evidence has emerged that confirms the use of chemical weapons. Such an escalation will lead to heavier casualties as well as increased terror among the innocent civilian population.¹⁴

¹² Speech by the Canadian Ambassador de Montigny Marchand to the Conference on Disarmament, 10 March 1988.

¹³ CD/823, 31 March 1988.

¹⁴ Commons Debates, 22 March 1988, p. 14002.