

Furthermore, most para-military firearms are military look-alikes and are nothing more than a dressed-up semi-automatic firearm. While there are some firearms which are probably not deemed fit for Canadian society, I do not believe that all firearms should be prohibited based on simple appearances. Careful consideration must be given.

Recommendation 3

It is recommended that all military-designed firearms be placed in the restricted category and that those firearms designated by the Canadian Advisory Council on Firearms and Parliament to be unsuitable, be placed, on a firearm by firearm basis, in the prohibited weapons category.

Recommendation 4

It is recommended that all para-military firearms designated by the Canadian Advisory Council on Firearms and Parliament to be unsuitable for hunting or competitive shooting, be placed, on a firearm by firearm basis, in the restricted category.

Chapter 3 - Magazine Capacity and Devices

A) Magazine Capacity

There was much debate over whether or not the magazine capacity should be restricted. Under C-80, the Minister announced her intention by way of regulation, to restrict the magazine capacity on firearms to 5 rounds for rifles and to 10 rounds for handguns. This is one of the most contentious issues in Bill C-80 and if accepted, these restrictions would have directly affected the legitimate use of firearms by hunters and competition shooters.

The Special Committee heard testimony from the RCMP's firearms expert, Mr. Murray Smith and many others, that magazines are unmarked and therefore untraceable. It was also acknowledged that this would make enforcement difficult as distinctions could not be made on the basis of different types of magazines being registered as restricted. Furthermore, the problems of interchangeability and untraceability, as well as the several millions of magazine already in existence in Canada, would make any limits on magazine capacity impossible to administer and enforce.