

threaten the West but rather as a check against internal dissent - a guarantee of Soviet hegemony - the fact remains that four million Warsaw Pact troops do pose a potential threat to Western Europe. We the West, being unwilling to match their forces with equal armies of our own must rely on nuclear forces to offset them.

This in turn, is not very reassuring to the Soviets. In much the same way that conventional forces in Eastern Europe pose a potential threat to Western Europe, our nuclear deterrent force is surely seen by them as potentially aggressive.

In recent years there have been many efforts to improve East-West security. In 1978 I enunciated a "strategy of suffocation". Since it takes years of research and testing to bring into use new instruments of destruction, in essence my strategy called for the suppression of these developments in the laboratory. This was never intended to mean that any country should unilaterally pursue this strategy. For it to be workable, it entails multilateral agreement to bring it into effect.

In the absence of a positive response from any quarter, the Canadian Government subsequently endorsed NATO's "two track" approach - seeking to improve our defensive position by preparing to