

*Government Orders*

That has taken place over the many years since the founding of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. There have been over 40 years of peace in the world. Sometimes there was the cold war, with the Warsaw Pact in eastern Europe. Over those years, there was very little conversation between the two sides. As long as that situation exists, there is not going to be much of a breakthrough.

The Conference on Security and Co-operation was held in Helsinki in 1975. It was a great breakthrough in international affairs and set the tone for the years to come. To a certain degree, it started a conversation which was absolutely necessary and one that was not taking place as a result of the cold war attitudes between the east and west military blocs. I want to point out that NATO is not just a military bloc. That is the feeling that many Canadians have had over the years.

Lester B. Pearson, who spent all his life in the diplomatic field—I do not know what he was like as a diplomat on the baseball field in his earlier days, but certainly throughout his years in the Public Service, whether as a civil servant or as an elected public servant who served in this House—had a major hand in the formation of that North Atlantic Treaty Organization. He built into it the ability for NATO to discuss economic issues among those 16 nations that eventually ended up as members. There were fewer of course to begin with, but others joined along the way over the 40 years of its history.

Economic issues could be discussed. Social issues could be discussed even down to the levels of unemployment which, of course, we realize is a great source of unrest within nations and among nations.

With social affairs, there is the mixing of individuals and the exchange of knowledge of a scientific and technical nature. I would like to point out that while we think that is important in this modern day, during the Dark Ages of world history, the only people who really communicated with each other were the scientists at the scientific and technological level.

There must be bridges built. The Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe must be enlarged. Yes, NATO will be more flexible, and must be more flexible. It must lend itself to the co-operative field of work, supplementing and working with, and indeed to some degree, becoming a real part of the CSCE.

Canada and the United States must be part of any new organization that comes out of the present Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe. We cannot just sit in North America as the fifth wheel on the wagon. Canada has been a great diplomat among the nations of the world over the years, and we have a role to play. We cannot hesitate from doing this for one minute.

Among the things that we must project, of course, which is most prominent among the CSCE, are the confidence building measures, the verification ideas that came out of any arms control agreements. We must make sure that both sides are, in fact, living up to the conditions which they signed for disarmament.

The Conference on Conventional Arms went on for years in Vienna with no move, no success. Of course, conventional armaments in Europe were just as great a problem as the nuclear problem itself.

They never really came to an agreement because there was no political will to do it. Again, Mr. Speaker, you must have that bridging of the gap and co-operation among nations.

When the Warsaw Pact started collapsing because of internal, economic and social conditions and because there was a desire among those people to have their freedom, there was the immediate political will at the Vienna Conference to have a downsizing of conventional arms in Europe.

All these agreements on the downsizing of conventional and nuclear arms must be an ongoing process. There must be additional meetings and talks to break down and get rid of all barriers so that we have co-operation and tranquillity in the world.

This can only be done if we have an effective forum in which to do it. We in this party certainly support a revamped CSCE. We support the fact that NATO will change. It will become more flexible and its attitude will change from supporting the arms against arms movement in Europe to getting rid of all arms so that there is no major threat to the peace and safety of mankind.

I think that over the years it will be proven that the NATO alliance was one of the most successful alliances in the world, when it came to holding off aggression between east and west long enough for the Warsaw Pact to collapse and fall apart. It was almost like waiting them out, for the day to come when the Warsaw Pact was no longer willing, able or had the desire to continue with