

Casey testified before Congress,²⁰ and later in February as questions of Canadian involvement in arms sales to the Nicaraguan Contra rebels surfaced. Specifically opposition members raised concerns after a report appeared in a Montreal newspaper stating that a Canadian company was involved in such sales.

Mr. Clark stated: "Any Canadian companies shipping arms to those destinations do so contrary to Canadian policy....There is now an active RCMP investigation."²¹

During hearings before the Standing Committee on External Affairs and International Trade (SCEAIT) Mr. Clark addressed the possibility of using "end-user" certificates to cut down on the possible misuse of dual-purpose exports. He said:

...one possible device can in fact be an end-user certificate. That...was what was invoked by Pratt & Whitney - on their own,...to bring an end to the abuse by the user of the engines that were being exported....I am concerned about the implications that legitimate Canadian exports might be diverted to other purposes. I want to tighten that up.²²

Opposition members objected to Canadian exports to countries with human rights problems despite the new Government provisions. NDP member Nelson Riis asked about exports to Chile. Mr. Clark responded that the exports consisted of electrical equipment not military equipment.²³ Questions of Canadian arms exports to Syria and Indonesia were also raised.²⁴

NDP member Pauline Jewett asked about a conference sponsored by the Department of External Affairs to promote military exports. She said:

²⁰ Commons Debates, 11 Dec. 1986, pp. 2015-2017; 12 Dec. 1986, pp. 2048-52.

²¹ Commons Debates, 12 Feb. 1987, p. 3373. See also: Commons Debates, 18 Mar. 1987, p. 4289; 4 June 1987, p. 6731.

²² SCEAIT Proceedings, 21 Jan. 1987, p. 30.

²³ Commons Debates, 27 Jan. 1987, p. 2741.

²⁴ Commons Debates, 27 Jan. 1987, p. 2741, 17 Feb. 1987, p. 3522.