immediately to make Canada a nuclear-free zone, to support a comprehensive test ban treaty, and to oppose completely the Star Wars proposal".

In a speech to the Commons on 17 February 1987, Conservative member Alan Redway commented on the resolutions adopted at the Liberal Convention:

If we decided to leave NATO or, for that matter, unilaterally declared Canada to be a nuclear free zone, we would be forfeiting the ability to influence in some way the negotiations for nuclear disarmament or for other kinds of conventional disarmament, perhaps the consultations on the first use of nuclear weapons in Europe, or the decision to use nuclear weapons first, before anyone else does. We would be forfeiting the right to consultation. It makes no sense for us to forfeit that right or to get out of NATO, nor does it make any sense for us unilaterally to declare Canada a nuclear free zone. Whatever happens in a nuclear exchange between the United States and the Soviet Union, whether or not we are a nuclear free zone will not save our hides. 4

Mr. Redway added that it was "surprising and disturbing" that the Liberals had adopted a resolution of this kind when they had been such strong supporters of NATO and of multilateral and verifiable nuclear disarmament for many years.

Current References

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³ Commons Debates, 1 Dec. 1986, p. 1635. Commons Debates, 17 Feb. 1987, p. 3551.