

blow to our ability to maintain our democratic freedoms here in Canada. There can be no doubt that the defence of Western Europe continues to be critical to the defence of the Canada we wish to preserve.³

Canadian officials lobbied hard within NATO to have a final decision on a NTFWTC site postponed until further more detailed analysis was carried out. In a news release from the Department of National Defence, the Minister of National Defence announced that Canada was still under consideration as a possible site. Mr. Beatty said:

We have good reasons to believe the military committee will not select a site at this time,... costs have been calculated in such a way that a fair comparison has not yet been possible. Canada has therefore asked that, in the next phase, both locations be costed in detail....[I am] confident that it will be followed up and that Canada's bid will get full consideration during the next phase of this project.⁴

On 4 December 1986, the Government announced that the Royal Netherland Air Force would also be making use of the Canadian base at Goose Bay to carry out low-level flying exercises as the result of a ten-year bilateral agreement between the two countries.

In the Defence White Paper, issued on 5 June 1987, the Government announced it would be withdrawing its commitment to provide troops to Norway in the event of a crisis. The CAST brigade will be assigned to a role in West Germany instead. The White Paper pointed out that one of Canada's main defence dilemmas was that it has a number of commitments that it chooses to fulfill. In particular, maintaining a commitment to NATO Europe in two different areas meant that resources were too thinly spread. The Paper stated:

³ Perrin Beatty, "Address to the Empire Club", Disarmament Bulletin, Winter-Spring 1987, p. 28.

⁴ DND, News Release, 78/86, 4 Dec. 1986.