

...the Washington-Moscow Summits of President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev have dramatized the progress made by the United States and the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics in improving their relations, particularly in the area of arms limitation and disarmament agreements. With the INF Treaty, the superpowers are destroying an entire class of nuclear weapons. An agreement to destroy a considerable number of strategic weapons is in sight. Obviously, the two superpowers have a long road still ahead of them. But the point is: they have already travelled a long way. This is the reason there is fresh hope today in the disarmament field.¹

The next day in a speech delivered at Carleton University in Ottawa, External Affairs Minister Joe Clark referred to specific action the Canadian Government had taken in regard to START:

In the context of the Soviet-American Strategic Arms Reduction Talks, Canada has advocated the negotiation of effective limits on air- and sea-launched cruise missiles, weapons which could increasingly threaten us directly, as intercontinental missiles do now. We are pleased that at the Washington Summit there was agreement to tackle this problem.²

PARLIAMENTARY COMMENT

On 4 May 1989 in the House of Commons, Liberal Member Mr. Joseph Volpe raised the issue of the deployment of US mobile missiles. He stated that about one-half of the 50 MX rail-mobile missiles would be stationed near the Canada-US border. During a crisis, he argued, these missiles might be moved closer to and even into Canada. Mr. Volpe called on the Prime Minister and the Minister for External Affairs to "... seek public assurances from the United States that Canadian territory will not be used for the deployment of this mobile nuclear weapon system. The Canadian Government must not allow the security and sovereignty of its people to be compromised."³

¹ Opening Statement by Ambassador Douglas Roche, Chairman First Committee UNGA 43, 17 October 1988, p. 2.

² "Sovereignty in an Interdependent World," Notes for Remarks by the Right Honourable Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs, at Carleton University, Ottawa, 18 October 1988, p. 7.

³ *Commons Debates*, 4 May 1989, p. 1304.