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Initiatives for peace and security: Prime Minister reports on peace mission

On his return from a week-long European trip that included stops in Czechoslovakia, the Democratic Republic of Germany and Romania, Prime Minister Trudeau addressed the House of Commons February 9 giving the first full report on his peace initiative which began October 26 and took him to 16 countries plus the United Nations. Stating that he intended to continue his peace crusade though it will be "less intensive than in recent months", the Prime Minister announced that he planned to contact Moscow and Washington to propose ten principles on which both sides could agree.

Following are extracts from Mr. Trudeau's speech:

When the first atomic bomb exploded in a New Mexico desert in 1945, life itself changed. Man gave himself the power of his own destruction.



Canapress

Never again would children be free from fear of the bomb. Never again would we parents be able to reassure them, nor to calm our own anxieties....

Nuclear weapons exist; they probably always will — and they work, with horrible efficiency. They threaten the very future of our species. We have no choice but to manage that risk. Never again can we put the task out of our minds....

...But Canadians are concerned that the superpowers may have become diverted from this elemental responsibility,

that they may be too caught up in ideological competition, in endless measurements of parity, in trials of strength and will....

The experts would have us believe that the issues of nuclear war have become too complex for all but themselves. We are asked to entrust our fate to a handful of high priests of nuclear strategy. And to the scientists who have taken us from atom bombs to thermonuclear warheads, from weapons that deter to weapons that threaten the existence of us all....

But technological push too often finds a sympathetic political pull. It is leaders who decided on defence budgets and research budgets; it is leaders who must direct; it is leaders who must assert their will for peace, or science will devise ever more lethal weapons systems....

Canada emerged from the Second World War as one of the very few nations with both technology and resources to build nuclear weapons. But we had seen the terrible nature of these weapons and their work. Successive governments, therefore, renounced this nuclear option, and applied Canadian skills to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. In place of a national nuclear force, we joined with others in systems of collective security — in the United Nations, in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and in NORAD.

Canada is a steadfast member of each of these three organizations.... Canadians, therefore, have earned the right to speak. They are telling us, the members of this House, as people everywhere are



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