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# The Disarmament Bulletin

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A review of national and international disarmament and arms control activities

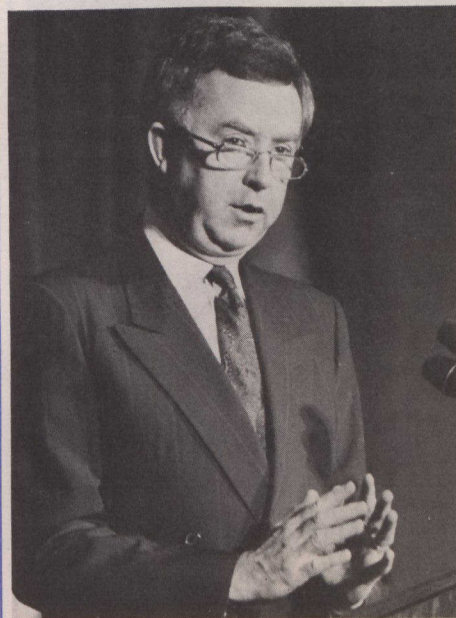
SSEA Addresses Meeting of NATO Foreign Ministers in Halifax .....	1
NATO Issues Statements on East-West Relations and Conventional Arms Control at Halifax Meeting .....	3
SSEA Reiterates Canadian Support for Compliance with SALT II Treaty .....	4
Canada Assumes Presidency of the Conference on Disarmament .....	5
Canada's Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, and the Head of the Canadian Delegation, Address the Stockholm Conference .....	7
Comprehensive Study on Arms Control and Disarmament Verification .....	9
Canada's Position on Nuclear Weapon Free Zones .....	12
House of Commons Holds Debate on Nuclear Arms Free Zone Concept on October 10, 1985 .....	13
Major Canadian Statement at MBFR Negotiations .....	14
Disarmament and Development Conference Postponed to 1987 .....	16
Canadians Now Part of Sinai Peace Force .....	17
Letter to Ms. Margaret Laurence on Question of Possible Tritium Exports from Canada .....	18
Chemical Weapons Use in the Iran-Iraq War .....	19
Canadian Arms Control and Disarmament Consultations with Japan and China .....	19
SSEA Announces Canadian Programme for the International Year of Peace .....	20
Proclamation of the International Year of Peace .....	21
Signals of Hope: Canada and the International Year of Peace .....	22
Embossed Stamp to Mark 1986 as the International Year of Peace .....	25
Ambassador for Disarmament Undertakes Cross-Canada Tour .....	25
Royal Canadian Mint Launches \$100 IYP Gold Coin .....	25
Canada Contributes \$100 000 to World Disarmament Campaign .....	26
List of Arms Control and Disarmament-Related International Agreements to which Canada is a Signatory or Party .....	27
Leaving its Alliances is No Choice for Canada .....	28

## SSEA Addresses Meeting of NATO Foreign Ministers in Halifax

Canada hosted the Ministerial Meeting of the North Atlantic Council in Halifax on May 29 and 30. At the Halifax meeting, the members of the Alliance undertook a thorough review of all aspects of the East-West relationship. The Right Honourable Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs, made the opening address to the Council. Following is the text of his address.

"On behalf of the Canadian people and the Canadian Government, I extend to you all a warm welcome to Canada and to Halifax.

It is a great honour for Canada to host the Foreign Ministers of the North Atlantic Council. This organization



Mr. Clark addressing NATO meeting in Halifax on May 29. Halifax Herald

means much to Canadians. We were present at the creation, indeed played no small part in its genesis. And we have been with NATO at every step along the way.

During the long years of its existence, the Atlantic Alliance has known great moments, made historic decisions, weathered stormy periods, and resolved difficult crises. Today, the Alliance finds itself on the threshold of what could be a new era in East-West relations.

The disappointments of *détente* are behind us, the tensions of the first years of this decade have eased, and there is hope for a better tomorrow. But it is hope tinged with scepticism and tempered by experience.

As we embark on our deliberations, let it be clear that the Alliance has gathered to give hope a firmer foundation, to disprove the sceptics, and to pursue the noble cause of reconciliation between East and West without neglecting the firmness that prudence demands.

When Allies meet, it is customary to celebrate the role the Alliance has played in preserving the peace in Europe and North America. This is not an empty boast. Would that the rest of the world could say as much.

Let us never tire of declaring that our freedom, our rights, our system of social justice, our economic development, our democratic way of life, represent the product of our common values. And that we owe their preservation to the Atlantic Alliance.

The Disarmament Bulletin is published periodically by the Department of External Affairs. It is intended to be a source of information on arms control and disarmament issues to a broad spectrum of Canadians. If you wish to be placed on our mailing list, or need additional copies, please write to: The Editor, The Disarmament Bulletin, Arms Control and Disarmament Division, Dept. of External Affairs, 125 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G2. Cette publication existe également en français.