

MILITARIZATION VS. ENVIRONMENT

The government claims that militarization is necessary to fulfill duties to Canada's allies. In fact this is used as a cover for actions which are destructive of people and environment within Canada.

Low level flying by NATO allies is destroying the way of life of the Innu people in Labrador where they have lived in harmony with nature for over 9,000 years. Canada is aggressively seeking a permanent NATO base in Goose Bay despite protests from the Innu.

The Innu and Low-Level Flight

The Innu see military intrusions as a direct threat to their survival. The jets fly over extensive regions of Nitassinan at altitudes as low as 30 metres. This results in a sudden increase in noise levels to over 110 decibels—enough to cause ear damage. The screams and booms of low-flying fighter bombers have caused the disruption of traditional hunting activities and psychological damage to young and old. The migration of caribou herds, essential to the traditional Innu life style, is seriously interrupted by NATO flight testing.

A frequent concern of Innu hunters is safety for their children.

"Once when we were travelling up a river, the planes...took us by surprise...Two of my youngest children jumped out of a canoe...because they were frightened. If they had jumped off in the deep part of the river, I could have lost them."

Against the wishes of the Canadian people, Canada is involved in nuclear weapons production and testing. The U.S. military who run NORAD intend to use the Canadian North to expand their nuclear options. Rather than a nuclear-free peace promoting area between the superpowers, Canada risks becoming the **killing field**.

..."(the deal) is a separation of environmental and economic decision-making ..."

Kirk Roberts
Ontario Environmental Network

This "DEAL" IS About The Environment

The Canada-U.S. Trade deal is about the environment because it fundamentally limits our ability:

-to develop environment and economic policies that promote sustainable development and resource conservation;

- to allocate natural resources including energy and water, as we from time to time determine to be in the public interest;

-to establish environmental standards or incentives that reflect our own values and priorities, or the uniqueness of Canadian ecosystems.

Because it represents an unprecedented surrender of regulatory control, the Trade Deal will, if implemented, fundamentally undermine the principles of environmental protection.

When the government tells you that the Deal is not about our environment, that water will not be subject to its provisions, and that it will have only a "modest" impact on our energy resources - don't believe it!

This deal IS about the environment in a way that no other economic, constitutional, or legislative event in Canada's history has ever been.

The fact is that countries look after their national interests to the extent that they are capable of doing so and when the devil drives, watch out. Sooner or later the U.S. is going to go after our water.

-Simon Reisman, shortly before being appointed Canada's trade negotiator

WATER

Present Canadian Policy will not stop water exports to the United States. Indeed, under circumstances that are likely to arise, Canada might well be obligated to export water - whatever its policy on the matter. Under international law the trade deal will override Canadian policy and law - for this reason a recent amendment to the Deal's implementing legislation will do nothing to protect Canadian water. As with other Canadian resources, the U.S. is guaranteed perpetual access to a proportionate share of our water: **once the tap is turned on it can never be shut off again.**

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WOMEN
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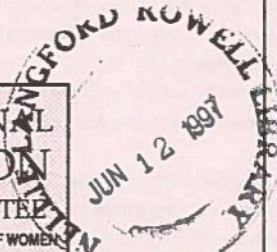
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344 BLOOR STREET, W., SUITE 505
TORONTO, ONTARIO, M5S 1W9
(416) 922-3246

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WOMEN SAY "NO" TO THE DEAL

The Mulroney-Reagan trade deal will hasten the militarization of Canadian society. Under pressure to "harmonize" programmes, women's issues will be sacrificed as Canada comes to resemble the U.S. "WARFARE" state where:

- only 1/4 of the unemployed receive unemployment insurance (compared to 60% in Canada)
- 36 million people, including 12 million children, have no form of medical insurance
- environmental standards are much lower in many areas
- the only kind of regional development program government has are military contracts.

Canadian development schemes can still be challenged by the U.S. as unfair subsidies to trade. However, if any government subsidy is "sensitive to the defence of the country", it will be permissible. The result may well mean the increased focus on military industries in the economies of poorer sections of this country.

The trade deal will encourage government incentives (i.e. subsidies) for environmentally irresponsible mega-projects, with their large-scale capital costs and resource consumption.

Women oppose increased militarization of the economy through the trade deal because it threatens:

- social programs like health care, child care, programs for battered women and children, care for the elderly
- full employment
- a more equitable distribution of income
- use of resources for socially useful production
- government ability to integrate environmental protection with economic planning and policy
- a secure future for ourselves and our children

Women make the connection that many social and women's programmes are jeopardized by increased expenditure on the militarization of Canada. Militarization is CAUSE of our increasing poverty, unemployment, and diminishing support services.

"...The struggle for peace and social justice will go on—provided that our earth survives and that caring humans still live. It is up to you, now, to do all that you can and that means a new commitment, at this perilous moment in our human history, to ensure that life itself will go on."

Margaret Laurence

WOMEN/PEACE/POLITICS

The future of the human race and preservation of our fragile planet's life support systems must become the paramount concern of our time. Women's concerns for social justice, for care for the young and old, for sustainable human development, are central in preserving this future. These concerns are being threatened by the militarization of the Canadian economy.

Under Brian Mulroney, the Canadian military has been increasing rapidly. This follows lobbying by the Business Council on National Issues (a group of 150 transnational corporations), which demanded in 1984:

-an 80% real increase in defence spending over the next ten years, and

- re-allocation away from other government activities and programs to defence.

In 1987 the Mulroney government issued its White Paper on Defence. Instead of promoting improved super-power relations, the White Paper urges an aggressive military build-up costing a **minimum** of \$200 billion over 15 years. This two hundred thousand million dollars has to come from higher taxes/cuts in social programmes.

WAR IS THE ULTIMATE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN

The Tory government plans to spend \$10 to \$15 billion to purchase 10 to 12 nuclear-powered submarines. The \$800 million price tag for **ONE** nuclear submarine could pay for:

-20,000 crisis units for battered women and their children.

- 286 units of social housing, and subsidized rent for 114 units;

- 450,000 houses for homeless children (UNICEF).

- the annual education budget of 23 developing countries with 160 million school-age children (Quebec Home and School News, February 1988).

The Federal Government's projected expenditure for child care over the next **SEVEN** years equals only 80% of the cost of **ONE** submarine.

It will be a great day when schools, hospitals, etc. have enough money to meet people's needs, and the Navy has to hold a bake sale to buy a nuclear submarine.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT NOT MILITARY DEVELOPMENT

Sustainable development is built on meeting basic needs of people but government subsidies and promotion help arms manufacturers to enter the lucrative **WORLD** arms trade.

The Canadian government not only allows but promotes arms exports to many countries which violate human rights, including Chile and Indonesia.

Military development is sold to the Canadian public on the basis of job creation and the correction of regional disparities. However, diverting money from sectors like health and education to arms manufacturing destroys more jobs than it creates.

JOBS CREATED BY \$1 BILLION OF SPENDING

EDUCATION	187,000 Jobs
HEALTH CARE	138,000 Jobs
CONSTRUCTION	100,000 Jobs
MASS TRANSIT	90,000 Jobs

*(Canada and the Nuclear Arms Race)
(Ed. Regehr & Rosenblum)*

The Tory government has escalated handouts to arms manufacturers. Urged by U.S. President Reagan and the Business Council on National Issues, the Mulroney government wants the arms industry to become a key sector of the Canadian economy. Government is cutting back on job creation in the social and cultural sectors and increasing aid to arms manufacturers.

In 1986-87, government provided subsidies of \$190 million for arms manufacturers. Twenty-two of the thirty firms that receive the highest R & D subsidies have military programmes. The eight largest are foreign-owned and received \$700 million in subsidies in 1984 alone.

If Canada becomes totally dependent on the U.S. economy, any pretence on independence in our foreign policy will go. Our credibility at the United Nations, our role as peacekeeper, our ability to speak to issues of social justice, e.g. in Central America, will disappear.