

**CONFERENCE OF DEFENCE ASSOCIATIONS INSTITUTE – 2003 CMS SPEAKING
NOTES**

-

GENERAL EVRAIRE, GENERAL MACNAMARA,

MESDAMES ET MESSIEURS IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE TO BE HERE TODAY TO GIVE YOU MY VIEW OF WHERE CANADA'S MARITIME FORCES ARE TODAY, HOW THEY ARE VIEWED BY CANADIANS AND WHERE WE ARE TRYING TO GO IN THE FUTURE.

JE VOUS FÉLICITE POUR LE THÈME DE VOTRE SÉMINAIRE : SOUVERAINETÉ, DÉFENSE ET SÉCURITÉ MONDIALE – LA DÉFENSE DES INTÉRÊTS DU CANADA AU 21^E SIÈCLE. C'EST UN THÈME D'UNE EXTRÊME IMPORTANCE POUR NOTRE NATION ET POUR NOTRE MODE DE VIE.

I SAID TO THIS CONFERENCE LAST YEAR THAT THE CANADIAN NAVY IS MORE COMBAT CAPABLE THAN IT HAS EVER BEEN. OUR OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE IN THE INTERVENING TWELVE MONTHS HAS DONE EVERYTHING TO REINFORCE MY CONVICTION BUT I CANNOT AFFORD TO FOCUS SOLELY ON THE CHALLENGES, SUCCESSES AND OPPORTUNITIES OF THE PRESENT. WE MUST ALSO FOCUS ON HOW WE SECURE OUR NATIONAL ROLE AND INFLUENCE INTO THE FUTURE.

JE VAIS D'ABORD VOUS DIRE OÙ JE CROIS QUE NOUS EN SOMMES AUJOURD'HUI, PUIS JE VOUS PARLERAI DE LA PERCEPTION QU'ONT LES CANADIENS ET CANADIENNES DE LEURS FORCES ARMÉES – ET DE LEUR MARINE EN PARTICULIER – ET ENFIN, DES POSSIBILITÉS QUE NOUS OUVRE LE BUDGET DE LA SEMAINE DERNIÈRE.

WHERE I ASSESS WE ARE TODAY

THE NAVAL CONTRIBUTION TO OPERATION APOLLO HAS DEMONSTRATED YET AGAIN THE VALIDITY OF THE CANADIAN TASK GROUP CONCEPT AS A HIGHLY EFFECTIVE INSTRUMENT OF OUR FOREIGN AND DEFENCE POLICY. THIS IS THE

RESULT OF THE NAVY'S DETERMINED TRANSFORMATION THAT STARTED IN THE 1980S. IT IS ALSO A TESTAMENT TO THE EFFECTIVENESS OF OUR INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE TRAINING REGIMES.

IL Y A SEIZE MOIS LORSQUE NOUS AVONS REÇU L'ORDRE DE DÉPLOIEMENT, LE GROUPE OPÉRATIONNEL NAVAL ÉTAIT PRÊT À PARTIR. ET COMME PRÉVU, NOUS AVONS DÉPLOYÉ EN DIX JOURS. DE PLUS, NOUS ÉTIIONS LES PREMIERS À ARRIVER DANS LE THÉÂTRE D'OPÉRATIONS QUE TOUS LES AUTRES PAYS ALLIÉS. ÉVIDEMMENT, SE TROUVAIENT DÉJÀ SUR PLACE LES GROUPEDES ÉTAS-UNIS ET DU ROYAUME-UNI QUI Y ÉTAIENT AVANT LE 11 SEPTEMBRE. DEPUIS CE JOUR, NOS NAVIRES ONT PARCOURU AU-DELÀ DE 600 000 MILLES.

A HUGE PART OF THE MAJOR WARSHIP FLEET HAS BEEN DEPLOYED -- BOTH TANKERS; TWO OF OUR THREE OPERATIONAL DESTROYERS (ONE TWICE) ; AND NINE (ABOUT TO BE 10)OF OUR TWELVE FRIGATES. TO DATE OVER 4500 NAVAL PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN DEPLOYED. AS YOU KNOW, IROQUOIS AGAIN SAILED AT TEN DAYS NOTICE EARLIER THIS WEEK AND, AS YOU KNOW, IS NOW IN TRANSIT TO HALIFAX TO OFFLOAD HER SEAKING AND EFFECT MINOR REPAIRS. WE ARE ALL GRATEFUL THAT ALTHOUGH RISK IS PART OF OUR BUSINESS THAT THERE WERE ONLY TWO MINOR INJURIES. WE HAVE A PLAN TO TURN IROQUOIS AROUND VERY QUICKLY. AS WELL, FREDERICTON WILL SAIL SHORTLY. THIS WILL BRING THE DEPARTURES TO 15. FROM AN INITIAL SURGE OF SIX SHIPS, THE TG NOW CONSISTS OF TWO FRIGATES, ABOUT TO BE THREE, ONE OF THEM ACTING AS THE FLAGSHIP UNTIL RELIEVED BY IROQUOIS.

UNTIL APPROXIMATELY THREE WEEKS AGO, CMDRE GIROUARD, AS THE COALITION TASK GROUP COMMANDER, HAD RESPONSIBILITY FOR SURVEILLANCE AND CONTROL OF A LARGE PORTION OF THE AREA OF OPERATIONS IN THE NORTHERN ARABIAN SEA. IN ORDER TO FULFILL THESE DUTIES, HE HAD CONTROL OF UP TO 8 OR MORE NATION'S COMBATANTS, INCLUDING AMERICAN WARSHIPS. HE NOW, AS YOU AGAIN KNOW, IS NO LONGER A TASK GROUP COMMANDER BUT COMMANDER OF TASK FORCE 151. HE

NOW HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR TWO THIRDS OF THE ARABIAN GULF, THE GULF OF OMAN AND THE NORTH ARABIAN SEA WITH MANY MORE COALITION WARSHIPS ASSIGNED TO HIS COMMAND.

JE NE CROIS PAS QU'UN CANADIEN AIT COMMANDÉ UN AUSSI VASTE THÉÂTRE NAVAL DEPUIS LE CONTRE-AMIRAL LEONARD W. MURRAY, COMMANDANT DES FORCES DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD-OUEST PENDANT LA DEUXIÈME GUERRE MONDIALE. C'EST UN FAIT TRÈS PEU CONNU.

NOS ACTIVITÉS D'INTERDICTION MARITIME SE POURSUIVENT. NOUS AVONS HÉLÉ QUELQUE 14 700 NAVIRES, DONT NOUS AVONS ARRAISONNÉ 350. C'EST PLUS DE LA MOITIÉ DU NOMBRE D'ARRAISONNEMENTS FAITS PAR LA COALITION DANS SON ENSEMBLE.

NOUS AVONS ÉGALEMENT ESCORTÉ D'INNOMBRABLES NAVIRES DE GRANDE VALEUR DANS LE DÉTROIT D'HORMUZ.

NOTRE RYTHME OPÉRATIONNEL, C'EST-À-DIRE LA PROPORTION DU TEMPS QUE NOUS PASSONS EN MER PAR OPPOSITION À CELLE QUE NOUS PASSONS À TERRE, EST DE 8.5 POUR 1.5, SOIT LE DEUXIÈME RYTHME LE PLUS ÉLEVÉ DE LA FORCE MULTINATIONALE.

SUSPECTED AL QAIDA MEMBERS WERE APPREHENDED IN MID-SUMMER - A FIRST FOR COALITION FORCES AT SEA. WE ARE ALSO CONDUCTING MARITIME INTERDICTION OPERATIONS IN SUPPORT OF UN SANCTIONS AGAINST IRAQ. WE HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR INTERCEPTING SUBSTANTIAL ILLEGAL DRUG, ALCOHOL, OIL AND OTHER MILITARY SHIPMENTS.

WHILE THESE ARE OUR HIGHEST LEVEL OF OPERATIONS SINCE THE SECOND WORLD WAR, AT HOME WE HAVE CONTINUED TO MAINTAIN OUR DOMESTIC SOVEREIGNTY OPERATIONS.

CANADA'S NAVAL ROLE IN THE WAR ON TERRORISM IS INTERNATIONALLY REGARDED AS AN OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO THE CAMPAIGN. IN FACT, MOST OTHER NAVIES ARE AMAZED AT WHAT WE HAVE AND CONTINUE TO ACCOMPLISH. SUSTAINING IT HAS BEEN QUITE AN ACHIEVEMENT BY THE MEN AND WOMEN OF CANADA'S MARITIME FORCES AND I AM PROUD OF THEM. THEIR EXPERTISE, DEDICATION AND EXCELLENCE IS OFTEN RECOGNIZED MORE ABROAD THAN HERE AT HOME.

MAIS TOUT CELA A UNE IMPACTE SUR LE PERSONNEL DE LA MARINE ET SUR NOS RESSOURCES, DONT NOUS DEVONS TENIR COMPTE. SUR A POINT, JE VOUS ASSURE QUE JE FAIS TOUT DE MON POSSIBLE POUR QU'ON EN TIENNE COMPTE.

I WAS ONBOARD IROQUOIS FOUR DAYS BEFORE HER DEPARTURE AND I CAN TELL YOU THAT DESPITE THE SHORT TURNAROUND, HER CREW AND AIR DET ARE READY, UNDERSTAND THE NEED TO DEPLOY, AND ARE COMMITTED!

JE VOUS ASSURAI QUE J'ÉTAIS DÉTERMINÉ À VEILLER À CE QUE LE PERSONNEL DE LA MARINE CANADIENNE PUISSE COMPTER SUR LES OUTILS, LE RESPECT ET LA QUALITÉ DE VIE QU'IL MÉRITE. CET ENGAGEMENT EST TOUJOURS LE MÊME.

MANY IN CANADA OPINE THAT WE ARE UNABLE TO MAINTAIN FIVE TO SIX SHIPS DEPLOYED CONTINUOUSLY. CANADA'S NAVY IS SMALL AND IS NOT SIZED TO DO SO. CANADA'S NAVY IS SIZED TO PROVIDE A 3 TO 5 SHIP TASK GROUP AS IT DID AND THEN TO MAINTAIN TWO/THREE UNITS ON AN ONGOING BASIS. GIVEN OUR SIZE WE ARE DOING WHAT IS EXPECTED AND MORE! WE ARE A SMALL BUT HIGHLY CREDIBLE AND COST EFFECTIVE FORCE.

WE ARE FAR FROM WHAT THE CANADIAN PUBLIC PERCEIVE US TO BE – INSIGNIFICANT!

CETTE IMPRESSION EST PARTIALLEMENT MA FAUTE, CAR JE DOIS COMMUNIQUER PLUS AGGRESSIVEMENT NOTRE MESSAGE. MAIS CETTE VUE

EST AUSSI RÉPANDUE PAR DES COMMENTATEURS AVIDES DE SENSATIONNALISME, QUI CITENT DES PAROLES HORS CONTEXTE.

IN ORDER TO BALANCE THE IMPACT UPON OUR PERSONNEL AND TO ENSURE THAT WE CAN MAINTAIN THE REQUIRED NAVAL CAPABILITY FOR THE FUTURE, MY SHORT TERM PRIORITIES ARE:

- TO SUSTAIN OUR COMMITMENT TO APOLLO OR OTHER GOVERNMENT DIRECTED OPERATIONS AT AN APPROPRIATE LEVEL WHILE BALANCING PERSONNEL TEMPO,
- TO CONDUCT MY ASSIGNED DOMESTIC MARITIME SURVEILLANCE MISSIONS,
- TO CONDUCT ESSENTIAL INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE TRAINING, INCLUDING THE REQUIRED TRAINING AT SEA,
- PLUS INTRODUCE THE VICTORIA CLASS SUBMARINES INTO OPERATIONAL SERVICE.

LAST WEEK'S BUDGET IS A POSITIVE STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

JE SUIS TRÈS FIER DES RÉALISATIONS, PASSÉES ET PRÉSENTES, DU PERSONNEL DES FORCES MARITIMES ET AÉRIENNES DU CANADA, ET LEURS RÉALISATIONS ME DONNENT UNE LEÇON D'HUMILITÉ.

J'AI LA FERME INTENTION DE CONTINUER À DOTER LE CANADA D'UNE MARINE CRÉDIBLE, APTE AU COMBAT, DÉPLOYABLE, INTEROPÉRABLE, CAPABLE D'ASSURER EFFICACEMENT, AU SEIN DES FORCES INTERARMEÉS CANADIENNES, NOTRE SOUVERAINETÉ, NOTRE DÉFENSE ET LA SÉCURITÉ DU MONDE AU 21^E SIÈCLE. POUR CE FAIRE, IL NOUS FAUDRA LA BONNE RÉPARTITION DE COMPÉTENCES DANS LES FORCES CANADIENNES DE L'AVENIR.

DO CANADIANS' UNDERSTAND THEIR MILITARY?

IN MY VIEW, HAVING BEEN INVITED TO HOLD DOORS, CALL CABS AND CARRY BAGGAGE IN PUBLIC IN UNIFORM, I ASSESS THAT CANADIANS HAVE BUT A SUPERFICIAL UNDERSTANDING OF THEIR MILITARY. I BELIEVE THAT CANADIANS HAVE A VIEW OF WHAT THEY BELIEVE THE ARMY SHOULD BE BASED LARGELY UPON WHAT THEY THINK THE ARMY WAS IN WWII AND THAT THEY HAVE A BASIC UNDERSTANDING OF AIR POWER BASED LARGELY UPON IMAGES OF FIGHTERS AND BOMBERS. I DO NOT BELIEVE THEY UNDERSTAND THAT CANADA IS A MARITIME NATION OR WHAT THE NAVY'S ROLE IS BEYOND THE FACT THAT THE NAVY PRESUMABLY HAS SOME SHIPS. AS I MENTIONED EARLIER, I BELIEVE CANADIAN'S POOR UNDERSTANDING OF OUR CAPABILITY IS IN PART MY FAULT. BUT THE NAVY ALONE CANNOT RECTIFY THE SITUATION. I NEED YOUR HELP AND THE HELP OF ALL THOSE BETTER INFORMED ABOUT THINGS MILITARY AND WE NEED A MEDIA THAT PROVIDES BALANCED REPORTING IN CONTEXT.

LET ME USE SOME RECENT EXAMPLES.

EN 2002, LES MÉDIAS ONT PARLÉ SURTOUT DE L'AFGHANISTAN, DE L'IRAQ, DU TERRORISME, DU SYNDROME DE STRESS POST-TRAUMATIQUE, DE L'ASPECT POLITIQUE DU FINANCEMENT DE LA DÉFENSE ET DE L'ÉTAT DES FORCES CANADIENNES.

CES RAPPORTS MENTIONNENT BIEN LA MARINE, MAIS ILS PARLENT GÉNÉRALEMENT DES FC DANS LEUR ENSEMBLE, SANS FAIRE DE DISTINCTION ENTRE LES DIVERSES ARMES.

IN THE WHOLE OF THE YEAR, THE NATIONAL NEWSPAPERS RAN PRECISELY 140 STORIES ON THE NAVY SPECIFICALLY.

FORTY CENTRED ON SEA KINGS AND ANOTHER THIRTY FOCUSED ON THE VICTORIA CLASS SUBMARINES. ALL OF THESE WERE PRETTY NEGATIVE! BUT A DENT IN A SUBMARINE IS NOT AND SHOULD NOT BE HEADLINE NEWS!

BUT FORTY MORE WERE ON OPERATIONS AND THESE SHOWED A DISTINCTLY POSITIVE SLANT. THEY PORTRAYED THE NAVY AS A COMBAT-READY, WELL-EQUIPPED FORCE.

TWENTY MORE DEALT WITH INDIVIDUAL SAILORS. THESE WERE ALWAYS POSITIVE AND SURROUNDED THE DEPARTURE, EXECUTION OF OPERATIONS, AND ARRIVAL OF SHIPS FROM OP APOLLO.

IL Y A DONC À PEU PRÈS AUTANT DE POSITIF QUE DE NÉGATIF DANS LA PRESSE ÉCRITE, ET LES COMMENTAIRES NÉGATIFS NE PORTENT GÉNÉRALEMENT PAS SUR LA MARINE EN PARTICULIER.

NOUS AVONS APPRIS QU'UN QUART DE MILLION DE GENS ONT REGARDÉ UNE ÉMISSION D'UNE HEURE, AU POSTE DISCOVERY, SUR LES PRÉPARATIFS DU NCSM WINNIPEG EN VUE DE L'OPÉRATION APOLLO. EH BIEN, JE PENSE QUE CELA MONTRE QUE LE PUBLIC CANADIEN VEUT MIEUX CONNAÎTRE NOTRE MARINE.

AND WE'RE CERTAINLY DOING OUR LEVEL BEST TO FULFIL THAT NEED. OUR CAPTAINS ARE GREAT COMMUNICATORS. THEY RELISH THE OPPORTUNITY TO TELL THEIR STORIES AS DO MOST OF OUR MEN AND WOMEN. WE WANT TO TELL OUR STORY BUT NOTWITHSTANDING OUR EFFORTS----

A RECENT POLL SUGGESTED THAT MOST CANADIANS DO NOT THINK THEIR NAVY IS RESPECTED BY OUR ALLIES – TELL ME AGAIN WHY WE WERE ASKED TO COMMAND TASK FORCE 151 IN LIEU OF OTHERS?

PRÈS DE LA MOITIÉ DE LA POPULATION CANADIENNE (49 %) CROIENT QUE NOS MARINS NE SONT PAS BIEN ENTRAÎNÉS! C'EST FAUX. NOUS AVONS LE MEILLEUR SYSTÈME D'ENTRAÎNEMENT AU MONDE ET, INDIVIDUELLEMENT, NOS COMPÉTENCES NE SONT SURPASSÉES PAR AUCUN PAYS, MEME LES ÉTATS-UNIS ET LA GRANDE-BRETAGNE. C'EST D'AILLEURS CONFIRMÉ LORSQUE LES CANADIENS ET CANADIENNES NOUS VOIENT AU TRAVAIL!

IT IS WIDELY THOUGHT, AS A RESULT OF INACCURATE REPORTS IN THE MEDIA AND INDEED YOUR OWN ORGANIZATION, THAT WE ARE REVERTING TO PRESS GANGING PERSONNEL BECAUSE OF PERSONNEL SHORTAGES. AT 10 DAYS NOTICE IROQUOIS SAILED AND YES REQUIRED APPROX 12 SHORT TERM REPLACEMENTS NOT BAD OUT OF 330 IN ANY ORGANIZATION. YES WE HAVE SHORTAGES BUT OUR RECRUITING TRENDS ARE POSITIVE AND OUR TRAINING PIPELINES ARE FULL!

POLLS TELL US MANY CANADIANS THINK THEIR NAVY IS INEFFECTIVE! YET WE MAINTAIN WATCH ON OUR MARITIME APPROACHES 24/7 IN CONCERT WITH MANY OTHER GOVERNMENT PARTNERS BASED ON ONGOING RISK ASSESSMENTS. NO NATION, INCLUDING THE US, CAN PROVIDE SEAMLESS COVERAGE. IT IS NOT AN AFFORDABLE WAY OF DOING BUSINESS! IN ADDITION TO OUR DOMESTIC ROLES WE HAVE ALWAYS SURGED TO MEET INTERNATIONAL CRISES AND HAVE ALWAYS EXCELLED! CTF 151 IS BUT THE MOST RECENT EXAMPLE – THE ADRIATIC, HAITI, TIMOR, WINNIPEG FLOODS, APEC TO NAME BUT A FEW OTHERS.

ALORS, ME DIREZ-VOUS, EST-CE QUE TOUT EST POUR LE MIEUX DANS LE MEILLEUR DES MONDES? BIEN SÛR QUE NON. NOUS MANQUONS DE RESSOURCES ET NOUS DEVONS JONGLER POUR RÉPONDRE À TOUTES LES DEMANDES. MALGRÉ CELA, VOTRE MARINE EST EFFICACE ET LE RESTERA!

WITHOUT CONTEXT AND BALANCE EVERYTHING IS PORTRAYED AS A CRISIS!

TAKE FOR EXAMPLE SUBMARINES. THE VICTORIA CLASS SUBMARINES ARE A COMPLEX WEAPON'S SYSTEM. AM I HAPPY WITH THE DELAYS THAT WE HAVE EXPERIENCED? OF COURSE NOT. BUT GETTING THESE SUBMARINES FULLY REACTIVATED WITHIN A FIXED PRICE CONTRACT IS ENSURING THAT CANADA IS GETTING OUTSTANDING VALUE FOR MONEY. HAVING SAID THAT, WHEN WE PROMULGATED THE INITIAL TIMELINES FOR ACCEPTANCE WE WERE OPTIMISTIC.

IL Y A UNE AUTRE CHOSE QUE NOUS NE POUVIONS PAS PRÉVOIR : QUE LE PROGRAMME DE CANADIANISATION DES SOUS-MARINS FERAIT DIRECTEMENT CONCURRENCE, AU CHAPITRE DES RESSOURCES, À LA DISPONIBILITÉ DES NAVIRES POUR L'OPÉRATION APOLLO; EN FAIT, IL N'Y AVAIT PAS EU AUTANT DE CONCURRENCE DEPUIS LA DERNIÈRE GUERRE. NÉANMOINS, MALGRÉ LA PUBLICITÉ NÉGATIVE QU'A ATTIRÉ LE PROGRAMME D'ACQUISITION DE SOUS-MARINS, LES PROBLÈMES QUE NOUS AVONS CONNUS NE SONT PAS INSURMONTABLES ET, EN FIN DE COMPTE, CES SOUS-MARINS DONNERONT AUX CANADIENS UNE CAPACITÉ ESSENTIELLE, À UN PRIX EXCEPTIONNEL.

LET ME NOW TURN TO THE FUTURE IN THE CONTEXT OF LAST WEEKS BUDGET.

THE FUTURE

WE HAVE A BUDGET THAT HAS INCREASED DEFENCE EXPENDITURES SIGNIFICANTLY. YOU HAVE ALSO HEARD THAT WE PLAN TO USE SOME OF THE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO MOVE US FROM A SURVIVAL MODE TO A SUSTAINABLE MODE. NOTWITHSTANDING NEW RESOURCES, WE MUST HOWEVER CONTINUE TO ENSURE WE ARE DOING OUR BUSINESS IN THE MOST COST EFFECTIVE MANNER WHILE ENSURING OUR MEN AND WOMEN HAVE THE RIGHT TOOLS TO DO WHAT WE ASK OF THEM.

NOUS DEVONS AUSSI ÊTRE RÉALISTES. NOUS NE POUVONS PAS TOUT AVOIR. CE SERAIT TROP BEAU. NOUS DEVONS DONC VISER LE PARFAIT ÉQUILIBRE QUI NOUS PERMETTRA DE RÉPONDRE AUX BESOINS DE NOTRE POLITIQUE DE DÉFENSE ET DE NOTRE POLITIQUE ÉTRANGÈRE.

BEAUCOUP D'ENTRE VOUS ONT LU *POINT DE MIRE*, LA STRATÉGIE DE LA DÉFENSE POUR LE 21^E SIÈCLE.

MY PRIORITIES ARE STRAIGHTFORWARD: MHP; INTRODUCTION OF THE VICTORIA CLASS; A MODULAR MORE CAPABLE AOR/ALSC WITH NEW MANNING

AND OPERATING CONCEPTS; MODERNIZATION OF THE HALIFAX CLASS PATROL FRIGATES AND REPLACEMENT OF OUR COMMAND AND CONTROL/LONGER RANGE AAW CAPABILITY, PLUS MODERNIZATION OF THE KINGSTON CLASS FOR THEIR GROWING DOMESTIC ROLES. IN THE FUTURE I ALSO SEE US MOVING TO A SINGLE NEW CLASS OF MAJOR SURFACE COMBATANT.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE COMMENTARY ABOUT WHAT THE BUDGET WILL OR WILL NOT MAKE POSSIBLE, I INTEND TO FIND AND PROPOSE INNOVATIVE FUNDING OPTIONS, EXAMINE REALISTIC CASH PHASING TO ENSURE, IN CONCERT WITH OTHER REQUIREMENTS, THAT WE CAN DEVELOP AN APPROPRIATELY BALANCED JOINT AND COMBINED CANADIAN FORCES IN AN AFFORDABLE MANNER.

EST-CE QUE CE SERA FACILE? NON. EST-CE QUE NOUS DEVRONS FAIRE DES CHOIX DIFFICILES? OUI. CEPENDANT, JE PENSE QUE CE BUDGET VA NOUS AIDER À PRENDRE UN VIRAGE AVEC DES RESSOURCES QUI NE CESSENT DE DIMINUER. JE PENSE AUSSI QUE C'EST UN POINT DE DÉPART, UNE SOURCE D'OPTIONS QUI ATTIRERONT L'APPROBATION ET L'APPUI DU GOUVERNEMENT. MES COLLÈGUES ET MOI-MÊME SOMMES MAINTENANT ENGAGÉS DANS CETTE VOIE.

I KNOW THAT YOU ALL KNOW THAT THE LEADERSHIP OF THE CANADIAN FORCES IS COMMITTED TO GETTING THE TOOLS THAT OUR PEOPLE NEED TO DO WHAT WE ASK OF THEM. QUITE SIMPLY, THIS IS OUR CONTRACT WITH THEM AND IT GOES TO THE CORE OF OUR LEADERSHIP AND OUR CREDIBILITY WITH THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE CANADIAN FORCES.

CONCLUSION

TODAY YOUR NAVY AND MARITIME AIR FORCES ARE HIGHLY CREDIBLE AND CAPABLE – WE ARE DEMONSTRATING THAT IN ALL OF OUR NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS. THAT SAID, TO MAINTAIN THIS CAPABILITY WILL REQUIRE INVESTMENT AND TRANSFORMATION.

LES CANADIENS ET CANADIENNES N'ONT QU'UNE CONNAISSANCE LIMITÉE DE LEUR MARINE ET DE SON RÔLE. NOUS DEVONS DONC TOUS NOUS AFFAIRER À LEUR PRÉSENTER LES FORCES CANADIENNES SOUS LEUR VRAI JOUR, QUE DE'MONTRE FORCES ET FAIBLESSES, ET DE NE PAS LES LAISSER À LEURS IDÉES PRÉCONÇUES.

I FULLY APPRECIATE WE HAVE CHALLENGES WITHIN THE FISCAL FRAMEWORK. HOWEVER, WE ALSO HAVE NEW OPPORTUNITIES GIVEN OUR SIGNIFICANT NEW RESOURCES AND A CANADIAN PUBLIC THAT IS HIGHLY SUPPORTIVE. OUR CHALLENGE IS TO LEVERAGE OUR SUPPORT, USING INNOVATIVE WAYS TO TRANSFORM CANADA'S MILITARY CAPABILITY TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF OUR COUNTRY AS WE MOVE AHEAD IN THE 21ST CENTURY.

OUR MEN AND WOMEN ARE DOING AN OUTSTANDING JOB AND THEY DESERVE THE TOOLS TO DO THE JOBS WE ASK. WE, AND ALL CANADIANS, OWE THEM RESPECT FOR WHAT WE ASK TIME AND AGAIN. THEY ARE ALL A DEMONSTRATION OF WHAT IS BEST IN CANADA TODAY AND TO THE FUTURE.

JE VOUS REMERCIE.