

## Inside Canada by Pierre Beaudry

### The end of MAD

*The possibility of total defense was discussed at CISS by France's Col. Marc Geneste.*

Colonel Marc Geneste, vice-president of the Paris-based Center for the Study of Total Strategy, intervened on Nov. 6 in favor of developing Western strategic defense at the annual conference of the Canadian Institute for Strategic Studies (CISS) in Toronto, where he had been welcomed by Lt. Col. Brian S. MacDonald, executive director of CISS. The CISS was meeting for two days to discuss "The Grand Strategy of the Soviet Union."

Insisting that the West has no other choice but to replace the Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD) doctrine by a Mutually Assured Survival (MAS) doctrine, Colonel Geneste asserted that "the only common-sense solution to defend Europe from the Soviet menace is to implement, now, a program of total defense with the neutron bomb and energy beams."

Colonel Geneste told the gathering that "the MAD doctrine has paralyzed both the United States and Europe," and that "the insanity of the doctrine has made the United States just as vulnerable as Europe."

This event was marked by a serious effort to formulate solutions to the current military crisis; the appeasement faction clearly lost ground.

John Halstead, former Canadian ambassador to NATO, now at Georgetown University, represented the "we must negotiate with Andropov at all costs" line of Prime Minister Trudeau and Peter Lord Carrington.

"East-West relations are too important to be left in the hands of the superpowers alone," he declared. According to Halstead, the Soviets have

"no coherent policy and are suffering from a feeling of insecurity. They have economic bottlenecks, they have to combat inefficiencies and disaffection of the workforce." For these reasons, he said, "I am concerned with the change of late in U.S. policy. It would be dangerous if the United States were to be seen as preparing to fight a war, instead of preventing one." He concluded: "We must not humiliate the Soviets because this will increase their aggressivity toward the West." However, "If we take a posture of appeasement, we will avoid [the relations] further deteriorating."

This sellout posture was countered by Harvard University's Richard Pipes, former adviser to the U.S. National Security Council, who stressed the necessity of "developing a counter-strategy for the West," including the development of energy beam weapons.

In response to my question on President Reagan's March 23 transformation of the MAD doctrine into a MAS doctrine based on beam weapons, Pipes replied that MAD had "died a slow death" and that ABM systems were definitely "a part of the U.S. counter-strategy."

Although he fell far short of proposing a full crash program of beam systems, Pipes said that "we must not take a position of fear in the face of a nuclear confrontation. For the first time, the Soviets have been challenged by Reagan in Grenada, and this was right."

Insisting on cutting back technology transfer to the Soviet Union, Pipes

said that "France's exchange with the Soviets of seven million tons during the last year is outrageous. This is counterproductive, if not suicidal." Furthermore, he added, "We must go beyond diplomacy and engage in verbal assault against the Soviets." The Soviets do it, why not do it ourselves, he asked.

Pipes also referred to the fight between the State Department and the National Security Council. "The pragmatists of the State Department don't agree that the United States should have a grand strategy. They think that grand strategists are ideologists and therefore should be discarded. Quite the contrary, the National Security Council defends grand strategy as opposed to political opportunism."

One of the Canadian speakers told me after the conference that for the first time in the history of CISS meetings, "the operational strategists took over the intellectuals. This is quite welcome at this time of crisis," he said. This reflects a broader split running across the Canadian political parties, as in the population more generally, between pro-Reagan sentiment and the Neville Chamberlain attitude of the camp headed by Prime Minister Trudeau.

Other prominent speakers were Malcolm Mackintosh, special adviser on Soviet and East European Affairs to the British Cabinet Office; Brig. Maurice Tugwell, director of the Center for Conflict Studies at the University of New Brunswick; Dr. George Lindsey, chief of Operational Research Analysis Establishment, Department of National Defense; George Kamoff-Nicholsky, former Director of Strategic Analysis, Department of National Defense; and Dr. George G. Bell, president of CISS.

Next year's CISS conference will be on "Canada's Strategies for the Pacific Rim."