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FULTON: U.S. MILITARY SHOULD CLEAN UP TOXIC DUMP

OTTAWA --- New Democratic Party environment critic Jim Fulton said today the U. S. military should be called in to clean up the Hyde Park chemical dump on the New York State side of the Niagara River.

"The situation at Hyde Park is so serious the Minister of External Affairs should call on his counterpart, Alexander Haig, to have the U. S. military clean up the place," Fulton said.

The MP for Skeena raised the question in the House of Commons after touring the Niagara region's chemical waste sites on an NDP fact-finding mission.

"Last month's spill of toxic waste from the Hyde Park dump into Bloody Run Creek and the Niagara River was reported to the Canadian government seven days after it occurred by a U. S. newspaperman -- not by the Environmental Protection Agency or the Department of State," Fulton said. "This dump contains enough dioxin to eliminate mankind -- some 2,000 pounds of it."

"The Minister of Environment's reluctance to discuss the issue with the New York State Assembly, despite their interest, is reprehensible," said Fulton. "And despite 10 diplomatic notes, there has been no action taken to contain these lethal sites."

The NDP task force met with numerous citizens' groups and individuals including Dr. Beverly Paigen, a cancer specialist with the New York State health department, who said Canadians are endangered by the chemical dumping.

The MPs and MPPs on the tour met with company representatives but were not impressed by the work they are doing, Fulton said. "Our meeting with Hooker executives in New York last week confirmed that they have no intention of cleaning up these time bombs."

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