

Mr. McINTOSH: Have you at any time thought, since you first heard this word "unification", that it would be the first step, as I said last evening, toward conscription or compulsory military service?

Rear Admiral LANDYMORE: As I said yesterday, I think it is a matter of government policy how the manpower requirements for the armed forces are going to be met. I do not think I am really qualified to say whether or not the government would decide to conscript people or whether they would attempt a much more attractive service in one way or another to get the men than the unified service.

Mr. McINTOSH: Yes, but is our defence policy not closely associated with our foreign policy and do you not, as a commander, have to consider one in relation to the other? Under the objectives outlined in the White Paper it states:

The objectives of Canadian defence policy, which cannot be dissociated from foreign policy, are to preserve the peace by supporting collective defence measures to deter military aggression; to support Canadian foreign policy including that arising out of our participation in international organizations, and to provide for the protection and surveillance of our territory, our air-space and our coastal waters.

Certainly this would be of some concern to you as a military commander in charge of a certain defence of the North American continent?

Rear Admiral LANDYMORE: In relation to that, I obviously have to take the policy directive and translate it into operational planning and operational posture in order that I can fulfil the government policy.

Mr. McINTOSH: In your opinion can any of these roles—defence of our coastal waters, our air-space and protection of our territory—now be carried out with Canadian forces only?

Rear Admiral LANDYMORE: No, they cannot. In any case, the whole North American defence is an interwoven defence. We take responsibility for some parts of the defence of the United States and they take responsibility for the coastal defence of Canada, because a missile submarine suitably placed in Canadian waters of interest can, of course, attack American targets, and vice versa. Therefore the forces are interwoven in both instances so that we can look after one another.

Mr. McINTOSH: Do you not feel that the United States are going to defend the North American continent anyway, and there could be a possibility in the Minister's mind that we do not need the Canadian forces any more?

Rear Admiral LANDYMORE: I do not know what is in the Minister's mind but I am quite certain that the United States intends to defend its country, and if it is necessary to use our coastal areas and our air space and other things, they will do so.

Mr. McINTOSH: In the introduction to the White Paper we find this sentence:

Many of the basic principles that govern Canada's defence policy are constant because they are determined by factors, such as geography and history, which are specific. Others, such as the nature and the magnitude of the threat to peace and security and the development of weapons and weapons technology, change rapidly and drastically. Therefore, defence policy must adapt itself to such changes, while principles remain constant. Can you tell me what is meant by principles remaining constant?