

*Oral Questions*

origin, the College was authorized in this particular case by provincial authorities, who are much more closely affiliated to the Hon. Member than they are to me, to go ahead and buy this particular piece of equipment.

In order to correct that situation I have sent letters off to all of the provincial Ministers of Education, reminding them of the standards of our Skills Growth Fund, and that we want them to buy Canadian. I hope they will respond.

## ENFORCEMENT OF BUY-CANADIAN PROVISIONS

**Mr. John Bosley (Don Valley West):** Madam Speaker, the Minister's rules in his own booklets say that the community colleges are to "Buy Canadian" unless the Minister of Education of a Province has said that the equipment is not suitable. In these cases of Niagara College, Mohawk College and Conestoga College, the Ministry has not said that. In fact the equipment is 100 per cent in use at Algonquin and other colleges. Will the Minister tell this House whether he is going to enforce the buy Canadian provisions of his own fund so that the jobs that are involved in manufacturing the equipment will stay in Canada, or is his "Buy Canadian" program just more Liberal rhetoric?

• (1125)

**Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Minister of Employment and Immigration):** Madam Speaker, I simply point out to the Hon. Member that enforcement action has already been taken. I have written to the provincial Ministers reminding them of their responsibility under the agreement. At the same time, because of the importance of the Skills Growth Fund in the creation of new jobs and new training for the young people of the country, I am not going to endanger the good relations we have with the Provinces simply because of the nonsense put forward by the Member.

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## CANADA-UNITED STATES TEST AND EVALUATION PROGRAM

## CRUISE MISSILE TESTING

**Miss Pauline Jewett (New Westminster-Coquitlam):** Madam Speaker, in the absence of the Prime Minister I would like to direct my question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Two of the Prime Minister's top advisers stated, as reported in *The Globe and Mail* of last Saturday, that even if the arms control negotiations going on in Europe succeed, as we all hope they will, "the Americans will still want to test their air launched Cruise missile in Canada" since it is of course part of the U.S. Air Force's inter-continental strategic weaponry not directly related to the European theatre.

Will the Minister therefore confirm or deny to the House that the Prime Minister has in fact, through secret correspondence and discussions, reached an understanding with the

United States President that we will in fact test their Cruise missile over Canadian soil?

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Madam Speaker, the Hon. Member has asked me to confirm or deny that the Prime Minister has entered into arrangements with the President of the United States to test the Cruise missile, through correspondence. I deny that.

## UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER AND UNITED STATES PRESIDENT

**Miss Pauline Jewett (New Westminster-Coquitlam):** Madam Speaker, will the Secretary of State for External Affairs however not confirm that the Prime Minister has reached an understanding with the President of the United States and that that understanding was reached some time ago, that Canada will be receptive to a proposal from the United States to test their air launched Cruise missile over Canadian territory? Has an understanding in principle been reached between the Prime Minister and the President of the United States?

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Madam Speaker, the understanding reached between the President of the United States and the Prime Minister was that there would be an over-all umbrella agreement that would provide the guidelines for weapons testing in Canada. That understanding was tabled yesterday in detail in the House of Commons.

There is no understanding beyond what was tabled in the House of Commons yesterday, and it is quite untrue to say that a commitment has been made privately by the Prime Minister that goes beyond the agreement which was tabled yesterday.

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## VETERANS AFFAIRS

## DISEASE FOUND AMONG FORMER FAR EAST PRISONERS OF WAR

**Mr. Dan McKenzie (Winnipeg-Assiniboine):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Veterans Affairs. Since the commencement of the investigation of Canadian Far East prisoners of war for strongyloidiasis by the Division of Laboratories, Ministry of Health in British Columbia, can the Minister inform the House whether or not any positive findings of this disease have been discovered?

**Hon. W. Bennett Campbell (Minister of Veterans Affairs):** Madam Speaker, I understand that thus far there have been a number of cases, although not a large number that have been identified, and corrective medical action has been taken not only to alleviate but to address any further occurrences which may show up in further investigation.