

S.O. 21

Madam Speaker, it seems as though the Government of Quebec and the Minister of Transport are once again getting involved in a nationalist venture. On top of that, the announcement come just two days before Quebec's national holiday.

Once again, it is clear that this Government does not care at all about the current situation at Quebecair or the interest of airline users.

Madam Speaker, I think that once again, we are seeing a Government that is only interested in making Quebec independent and is not concerned about the people of Quebec.

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INDUSTRY**PRODUCTION OF CIGARETTE TOBACCO—CREATION OF NATIONAL OFFICE**

Hon. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Madam Speaker, increasingly, there has been talk of the possibility of establishing a national cigarette tobacco production board.

[Editor's note: Interruption caused by power failure.]

Madam Speaker, since I represent a riding that has a vested interest in the production of cigarette tobacco, since 90 per cent of the Quebec harvest comes from the riding of Joliette, I took the trouble to send a letter to all my Quebec colleagues especially, to show the Minister that I am certainly not opposed to the idea of establishing a national board. However, since a national board will be concerned with exporting tobacco, it will also have to monitor production and set quotas. Since Quebec produces only 50 per cent of the tobacco consumed in the province, I hope that in the event Canadian production would have to be cut back, Hon. Members and especially the Minister will agree to allow Quebec production to be maintained at least at present levels. I am mentioning this as a warning to the Government that it is highly unlikely Quebec producers would agree to cutbacks in production if that became necessary, since they are producing only 50 per cent of the tobacco consumed in the province. In the circumstances, I thought it would be a good idea to make my colleagues aware of this point. I have received acknowledgements from the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Whelan), and I hope all my Quebec colleagues will do likewise.

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[English]

NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS**REPORTED STATEMENTS BY CANADIAN ADMIRAL**

Mr. Terry Sargeant (Selkirk-Interlake): Madam Speaker, yesterday Canada's own Admiral Robert Falls, the Chairperson of the NATO Military Committee, added his voice to those of many other western military leaders in condemning the nuclear arms buildup. The Admiral is particularly alarmed

at the buildup of battlefield nuclear weapons in Europe and says that NATO already has more weapons than it needs even before it deploys the Cruise missiles and the Pershing II missiles in Europe.

Admiral Falls is an accomplished military leader who is obviously familiar with the strengths and the weaknesses of NATO. For the benefit of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Lamontagne), I might add that he is not someone who could be accused of being either pro-Soviet or anti-American. Yet Admiral Falls feels comfortable saying that NATO could unilaterally reduce its stockpile of nuclear weapons without upsetting deterrence or undermining our security.

The Admiral's statement is only the latest one that exposes the hypocrisy of the Government's policy of talking peace while throwing fuel on the arms race. The Government is already aware that the introduction of long-range Cruise missiles will destabilize arms control agreements because the Cruise missile defies verification. Arms control agreements depend on verification, not on trust.

In good conscience the Government can only make one decision, and that is to refuse to test the Cruise and press both super powers to negotiate a ban on long-range Cruise missiles now.

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SPORTS**WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES—PRIME MINISTER'S ATTENDANCE URGED**

Mr. Bill Yurko (Edmonton East): Madam Speaker, from July 1 to July 11, Canada will be host to athletes from 97 countries who will be participating in Universiade '83 in Edmonton. This event is second only in size and importance to the Summer Olympics. It is an event that goes beyond athletic competition. It is a world event that builds friendship through competition, understanding through brotherhood, and peace through tolerance and good will.

The grand opening of this major international event will set the stage for subsequent competitions. It is expected that the Prime Minister of Canada (Mr. Trudeau) will play a prominent part in the opening ceremonies.

I have been advised, Madam Speaker, that the Prime Minister might not attend the grand opening of the Games. Why not? The country only has one Prime Minister. Surely when athletes from 97 countries, with all of their attendant dignitaries and officials come to our country, our Prime Minister should welcome them on behalf of all Canadians as he represents us all.

I ask the Prime Minister to rise in the House and advise the nation that he will be attending and will participate in the opening ceremonies of Universiade '83.