

are a part, we cannot do that without assuming some obligation.<sup>2</sup>

Responding to an NDP motion to end cruise missile testing, Mr. Clark stated:

One of the Government's priorities in our arms control and disarmament policy is the enhancement of strategic stability. The air-launched cruise missile with its long flight time and its relatively slow recallable carrier is currently among the most stabilizing elements of nuclear deterrent forces. However, we believe that it too should be subject to arms control restraints. We have supported the inclusion of air-launched cruise missiles in the limits on strategic nuclear arms being negotiated at the Geneva talks.... One does not help people get to the negotiating table and then, just when the hard negotiation is about to begin, weaken the side which one supports.<sup>3</sup>

The umbrella-testing agreement reaches the end of its first five-year term on 28 February 1988. Since the Government did not state any intention of withdrawing from the agreement by 28 February 1987 (twelve months' notice) the agreement was automatically renewed for a second five-year term. The Associate Minister for National Defence made this renewal clear to the House. He pointed out:

...the project arrangements for cruise missile testing is part of an over-all test and evaluation agreement with the United States.... Those [news] reports have left an impression that the Government is committed to a further five years [of cruise missile testing]. This is, of course, not the case. ...The agreement has always been and still is, liable to termination at any time by either party giving 12 months' notice.... Either party can terminate a specific arrangement under

<sup>2</sup> Standing Committee on External Affairs and International Trade Proceedings, 21 January 1987, p. 23.

<sup>3</sup> Commons Debates, 6 Mar. 1987, p. 3909.