

sales alone. Therefore, these goods are primarily exported to the United States and to our NATO allies....In recognition of this fact, the Government will continue to maintain an open approach to the export of military goods...to our NATO allies and other friendly countries.¹¹

Parliamentary Comment

When the controversy concerning arms sales to Iran arose in the United States, questions about Canadian sales to Iran were raised in Parliament. Pratt & Whitney had exported helicopter parts to Iran and opposition members inquired as to why permission for this sale had been granted and at what level the decision had been made. Mr. Axworthy pointed out that the helicopter engine in question was listed by the Department of External Affairs as having military purposes. The Deputy Prime Minister, Don Mazankowski replied:

...we have been assured that this was a commercially oriented transaction. There have been cases where permit applications have been refused....Where there is a clear case of spare parts being used for military purposes, the export permit requests are turned down.¹²

NDP member Pauline Jewett pursued the issue. She indicated that a company in Texas had refused to sell helicopter parts to Iran because it was confident they were being used for military purposes.¹³ Liberal member Don Johnston asked the Deputy Prime Minister whether the US government had asked the Canadian Government to approve the sale. Mr. Mazankowski replied:

¹¹ DEA Communiqué, no. 155, 10 Sep. 1986, p. 2.

¹² Commons Debates, 17 Nov. 1986, p. 1221.

¹³ Ibid., p. 1223.