munication with the outside world for those isolated communities is something which can be provided by Anik.

On a temporary basis Anik has a second advantage for us, in that we have been able, because of surplus channels. to rent a part of that space to the Americans. So there is added revenue for the time being, but this, of course, will be temporary. International satellite communications are in the hands of Intelsat, and the Anik series is concerned purely with domestic communications. As soon as the American domestic satellites are in place, they will be using their own, and we shall revert to using Anik exclusively for ourselves. But temporarily the present arrangement is both interesting and useful. It is economically beneficial to us, and also interesting that a Canadian satellite should be providing communications for our American neighbours, whom we normally consider to be far ahead of us in the scientific field. In this case, Canada is ahead.

• (1430)

Where do we go from here? What are the next likely steps? My understanding is that the production of a satellite, from the stage of design to that of putting it into space, involves roughly a three-year period. Canada at the moment has a contract for a third Anik satellite. The likelihood is that it will be launched, at the earliest, in 1975. Contract negotiations are presently in process with NASA and, depending on failures in the present Aniks, changes in communication demands, or commercial changes, there is the likelihood of a launch in mid-1975.

There has been co-operation with the Americans in connection with the launching. A wise decision was made by Canada at the outset not to attempt to develop its own launch vehicle, which is a very expensive process, but to agree to depend on the Americans who had rockets and bases in place, which were effective and which could be used without our being involved in any capital expenditure. At the moment, there are only three pads in North America from which launchings can take place. There are two at Cape Kennedy and one in California. I understand that for the next year those launch pads will be in complete use. One launch per month is scheduled as the American program comes to fruition. There is the likelihood at the moment that Canada may not need to launch Anik III as early as anticipated, because of the outstanding success of Anik I and Anik II.

Canadians can look at this achievement with a great deal of pride. It is something uniquely Canadian. It is something in which we have been a world leader. It is a field in which we can look forward to economic benefits. Because of the technology developed in Canada, and the fact that the whole process has been so successful, it will likely mean that other nations—some are dealing with us now—will be looking to Canada for further scientific help in this field.

I am pleased that Senator Grosart was able to represent us at the launching of Anik II, and that he initiated this inquiry. I hope that more Canadians will look into this program and understand its importance to our nation, and will appreciate how much we owe to those individuals who have been involved in it.

The Hon. the Speaker left the Chair.

Hon. John M. Macdonald in the Chair.

The Hon. the Acting Speaker (Hon. Mr. Macdonald): Honourable senators, as no other senator wishes to participate in the debate, this inquiry is considered as having been debated.

CANADA-UNITED STATES INTERPARLIAMENTARY GROUP

FIFTEENTH MEETING—DEBATE CONCLUDED

On the Order

Resuming the debate on the inquiry of the Honourable Senator Aird calling the attention of the Senate to the Fifteenth Meeting of the Canada-United States Interparliamentary Group, held at Washington, D.C., and White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, from 4th to 8th April, 1973.— (Honourable Senator Molgat).

Hon. Paul Martin: Honourable senators, when the debate on this order was adjourned, it was done so in the expectation that some honourable senators would be interested in pursuing the discussion. It now seems that this debate has been exhausted, and I consequently ask that it be removed from the Order Paper.

The Hon. the Acting Speaker (Hon. Mr. Macdonald): As no other honourable senator wishes to speak on this item, it will be considered as having been debated.

VIETNAM

VISIT OF CANADIAN PARLIAMENTARY MISSION—DEBATE CONCLUDED

On the Order:

Resuming the debate on the inquiry of the Honourable Senator Cameron calling the attention of the Senate to the recent Canadian Parliamentary Mission to Vietnam.—(Honourable Senator Molgat).

Hon. Paul Martin: Honourable senators, the remarks I just made with respect to the previous order also apply to this one. I would ask that it, too, be removed from the Order Paper.

The Hon. the Acting Speaker (Hon. Mr. Macdonald): Honourable senators, as no other senator wishes to speak on this order, it will be considered as having been debated.

CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENTS—CANADA'S ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF CONTROL AND SUPERVISION—MOTION WITHDRAWN

On the Motion of the Honourable Senator Martin:

That this House welcomes the conclusion of the Agreements on ending the War and restoring peace in Vietnam and notes the provision for an International Commission of Control and Supervision as part of the cease-fire arrangements, in which Canada has agreed to participate for the initial period of 60 days as provided for in the Note, dated January 27, 1973, from the Secretary of State for External Affairs to the four Parties to the Vietnam cease-fire.—(Honourable Senator Molgat).