

That is, 1952.

" --and when we question the advisability of the figure of \$300 billion that is NATO's proposed military expenditure, he-- "

Referring to myself.

" --asks us where we got that figure."

And he went on to say:

"He knows that we got it from responsible newspapers who are being permitted to suggest that figure as the NATO goal. He questions it, yet he will not tell us what the precise goal is."

That is the end of the quotation from the speech of the hon. member. Now, anyone reading that paragraph, in relation to the programme for this year, might get the very mistaken impression, which was not intended, that our goal was \$300 billion even this year. Of course that is not true. Nor is there any foundation or any validity for any press statement that NATO has given out either officially or unofficially at any time a figure of \$300 billion as representing, in financial terms, the military goal to be achieved by NATO.

It is quite impossible, even in terms of the physical programme we are trying to work out, to know how much this programme will cost the fourteen countries concerned--or the twelve countries, if you leave out Turkey and Greece for the moment. But I have never seen speculation, or in any of our exchanges of views any figure, which approaches that of \$300 billion for the three years in question.

But the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre said: "Give us the details with respect to your programme, so we can make up our own minds. What are our commitments?

Break through the secrecy." So far as the Canadian programme is concerned, there is no secrecy. The Minister of National Defence (Mr. Claxton) was quite specific about our commitments, when he spoke in the House on October 22 last, at which time he gave figures of our contribution to the Integrated Force as one brigade and eleven squadrons. Those figures were before the House, and were not objected to by the House.

Then, on February 26 last, upon his return from Lisbon, he announced then that we would ask that the number of RCAF squadrons to be committed to NATO by this country would be increased from eleven to twelve. That is the only additional forces commitment, and it has already been announced, that arose from the Lisbon conference, so far as Canada is concerned.

The estimates which were tabled the other day indicate that our mutual aid figure, our payment for assistance, goes up to \$324 million in the next year. But the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre wants details of the total NATO military programme, and, presumably, details of the programmes of other members. All I can say to him is that it is quite impossible to give those details ...