

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, that question has already been answered by the Minister of National Defence. There was a request made in mid-February. There was a response made by the Government of Canada which was deemed satisfactory at the time by the Turkish Embassy. There has been no communication with the Turkish Embassy or the Turkish Government since that time.

LETTER TO SECURITY AGENCY PERSONNEL

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, is the Secretary of State aware that one week before the attack took place, Pinkerton's sent a letter to its operatives who were guarding the Turkish Embassy, informing them that they had to be more vigilant during this high-risk period? Does the Minister feel that that was sufficient to meet the risks that were brought to the attention of the Government?

Hon. Erik Nielsen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, I know of no such letter. It is precisely for that kind of reason, and for other very obvious reasons, that the invitation has been extended to the Leader of the Hon. Member's Party so that he may be fully briefed on the matter. Hopefully he can make constructive suggestions with respect to finding adequate solutions.

TRAINING OF AGENCY PERSONNEL

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, let me ask the Deputy Prime Minister, if he is interested in holding a meeting with my Leader, if he would be kind enough to put, in a letter to us, what it is that he intends to discuss and the parameters of the meeting? Many times I have heard in the House offers to do things that never materialize. Is the Deputy Prime Minister—

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Have Ed show up. He'll find out soon enough.

Mr. Deans: What is he supposed to do, stand outside the door and wait to be invited in?

Is the Deputy Prime Minister aware that the training requirements for Pinkerton's guards guarding the embassies are three to four hours of instruction in the law regarding the handling of guns, and three to four hours of target practice, and that that is it?

Hon. Erik Nielsen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence): With respect to the last question, if the hon. gentleman would send me a copy of the letter to which he refers, I am sure it would be most helpful.

With respect to the training, as I answered yesterday in response to a similar question, naturally training, or indeed roles with respect to the provision of security at our embassies, is one of those matters that is under intensive review at this very moment, the object being to ascertain whether or not the facts alleged by the Hon. Member are so. They may be so and

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they may not be so, but surely that has to be the subject matter of the kind of intensive review of which I speak.

• (1430)

Again, I would invite them to participate. Surely I do not have to send the right hon. gentleman and the Leader of the New Democratic Party a formal, embossed invitation to meet with me. Surely this exchange in public, on the floor of the House of Commons, should be sufficient. If they are at all interested, all they have to do is communicate with me and I will see to it that such a meeting is set up.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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NORTH AMERICAN AIR DEFENCE

NORTH WARNING SYSTEM—SIGNING OF AGREEMENT

Mr. Len Hopkins (Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke): Mr. Speaker, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence informed me that he did ask the Minister of National Defence to appear before the committee and that he could not attend this week. However, he has just said yes, that he will now go, and he said yes to me last Wednesday. What is the conflict?

Yesterday we were told that the North Warning System agreement would be signed this weekend in Quebec City, after only one hour and 40 minutes of very general discussion in committee. Naturally, it is an absolute understatement to say that many crucial questions have not been answered. Will the Minister assure Canadians that there is a clause in the agreement which will, without any doubt or reservation, protect Canada from being tied into future technological developments which Canadians may not want?

Hon. Erik Nielsen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, as I indicated yesterday—and certainly in the press package which was delivered and which the Hon. Member has in his possession—immediately upon the signing of the agreement it will be tabled in the House and made public. It may be referred, or taken up on its own initiative, by the standing committee. At that time the answers to all of the questions will be readily apparent and the provisions of the agreement will be public knowledge.

REQUEST FOR REVIEW PROVISION

Mr. Len Hopkins (Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke): Mr. Speaker, we will be waiting for the Minister at 3.30.

The existing NORAD Agreement has built into it a periodic five-year review by Parliament. Will the Minister now assure Canadians—and don't cop out because we deserve answers today before it is signed—that the agreement for a North Warning System will have a five-year review provision in order that the elected representatives of the Canadian people can