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CONTENTS

Safeguards for Atomic Reactors.....	1
Canada-U.S. Automotive Agreement.....	2
Faster Technological Changes.....	2
Air Industries Mission.....	3

Increased Construction.....	4
Government and Poverty.....	5
Skiing Study Planned.....	7
Louisbourg Fortress Restored.....	8

SAFEGUARDS FOR ATOMIC REACTORS

The following statement was made in the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly by the Canadian Representative, General E.L.M. Burns, on November 2, 1965:

...There can surely be no misunderstanding about the general Canadian position on safeguards. Canada was one of the pioneers in the development of the safeguards system of the International Atomic Energy Agency. Since the founding of the Agency, Canada has persistently devoted much effort to developing the system. The revised safeguards system only came into effect recently. During the period when the Agency's safeguards did not extend to large reactors, Canada was among those countries leading the way to acceptance of safeguards by concluding a number of bilateral agreements embodying strict safeguards provisions. Now that large reactors can be covered by the IAEA system, we have started the process of transferring to the Agency the administration of safeguards under these bilaterals. The first such transfer (under our agreement with Japan) was announced at the IAEA Conference in Tokyo in September and there is reason to hope that others will follow soon.

This background should suffice to demonstrate an abiding Canadian concern about safeguards. This Committee may rest assured that the Canadian Government will not fail to meet its full responsibilities with respect to any of the bilateral atomic energy agreements it has entered into.

RAJASTHAN PACT

Something was said the other day about the 200-megawatt reactor being built with Canadian co-operation at Rajasthan in India, which will only be

operational in 1968 or 1969. In the first place, the agreement of December 1963 between Canada and India contains an unequivocal undertaking that the reactor will be used for peaceful purposes only. This agreement has been registered with the United Nations so that its terms are public knowledge and it has presumably been studied by the IAEA. Perhaps the matter will be clarified further if I read the essential portions of Article XIII...: "The two Governments agree that...to ensure that the provisions of this agreement are being observed..., whenever the designated technical representatives...so request, they shall thereupon be accorded access to all parts of the Rajasthan Atomic Power Station...; (and) to all other places where fuel or fissionable material used in or produced by the Station...is being used, stored or located..." In other words, Canadian inspectors may enter the Rajasthan Station forthwith upon request, at any time, and without prior notice. When the station is operational, they may also go anywhere else where the fissionable material is located in order to assure themselves that the plutonium produced in the reactor and processed in the separation plant is not diverted to military use. Moreover, Canadian inspectors may examine all the products of the reactor regardless of the source of the fuel. Inspectors from IAEA could do no more and would be no more rigorous in carrying out their duties.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH PAKISTAN

It is perhaps worth saying something further about the transfer of the administration of safeguards to the Agency. This policy objective is reflected in the fact that all Canadian agreements made since 1957 contemplate such a transfer, including the Rajasthan