

*NORAD Agreement*

party, with a time limit of five minutes each. If all parties agree, we shall introduce this motion immediately.

[*English*]

**Mr. Baker:** Madam Speaker, I am delighted that the hon. gentleman is bringing that forward. There have been discussions and we are agreeable.

**Mr. Knowles:** So are we, Madam Speaker.

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## GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*Translation*]

### NATIONAL DEFENCE

#### REFERENCE TO COMMITTEE OF POLICY RESPECTING DEFENCE CO-OPERATION WITH UNITED STATES

**Hon. J. Gilles Lamontagne (Minister of National Defence)** moved:

That the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence be empowered to hear evidence and consider Canadian policy with respect to future defence co-operation with the United States in the North American region with particular reference to air defence and related arrangements embodied in and flowing from the North American Air Defence Command (NORAD) agreement, and it shall report thereon no later than December 31, 1980.

He said: Madam Speaker, first of all I would like to thank the other parties in the House for their co-operation in allowing this committee to discuss this motion, probably at least during the summer, to prepare for resumption of the session in the fall.

[*English*]

The North American Air Defence Command agreement between Canada and the United States was first concluded in 1958 and then renewed in 1968, 1973 and most recently in 1975 for a five-year period which expired on May 12, 1980. On that date, by means of an exchange of notes, the 1975 agreement was extended for a period of one year. The purpose of the extension is to allow a review by the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence of the NORAD agreement and related arrangements as set forth in the accompanying motion.

The agreement provides for the joint North American Air Defence Command through which Canada and the United States co-operate in aerospace surveillance and warning systems and integrated operational control of North American air defence forces, but it does not specify the nature or level of the resources each country should contribute to the common aerospace defence effort. National contributions are determined by each government, often following intensive bilateral consultations.

NORAD operates within the framework of the North Atlantic Treaty, and it has always been perceived by both

countries and by our NATO allies as a symbol of Canada-U.S. co-operation and as a valuable contribution to the over-all security of the NATO area.

[*Translation*]

At the present time, NORAD has highly effective and economical land, air and space detection and communication systems which can signal the attack of missiles or bombers against North America, prevent unauthorized aircraft from entering the North American airspace, monitor strategic and tactical space operations, and detect the re-entry in the atmosphere of objects from space which represent a hazard for human beings and the environment.

[*English*]

In its deliberations following from today's motion, the SCEAND may wish to examine or receive evidence on the following topics which are relevant to our co-operation with the United States in the Canada-U.S. region of NATO, and in particular to the arrangements flowing from the NORAD agreement: the changing strategic balance and implications for the stability of mutual deterrence; prospects for strategic arms control and the peaceful use of space; the strategic-aerospace threat to North America: past, present and future; strategic-aerospace defences in North America: air defence, passive space defence, active space defence ballistic missile defence; the place of NORAD in strategic defence: recent and planned or potential changes to the organization, roles and force structure of NORAD; Canada's contribution to NORAD; responsibility and cost sharing in NORAD; other elements of Canada-U.S. defence co-operation in the North American region; North American defence co-operation linkages: Canada-U.S. relations generally, defence outside North America, control of civil air traffic, surveillance of space.

[*Translation*]

I am sure, Madam Speaker, that in considering those matters and all others they will deem necessary to consider in order to fully understand the agreements on the defence of North America, the committee will be doing something very useful for Parliament and the Canadian people as a whole. The government hopes that the committee will report without delay, so that their recommendations will prepare the ground for the negotiations regarding the ongoing Canada-U.S. co-operation on defence.

[*English*]

**Hon. Allan B. McKinnon (Victoria):** Madam Speaker, the minister did not read the wording of the motion, so I assume it is exactly the same as motion No. 4 under government business on the order paper which is, for all practical purposes, exactly the same as an entry on the order paper of December 7, 1979, in happier days. So we cannot complain too much about the wording of the order, it being so close to identical to our own. The only change is in the date. Instead of being returned by the end of March, 1980, the committee is to finish its findings by December 31, 1980. It seems as if there is more time, and yet I doubt it will be enough and perhaps the