

A.B.M. system will cost in excess of \$5 billion. To deny our neighbour the use of our ground and air space for our mutual preservation would not only be denying Canadians the security which they deserve and cannot afford, but would be turning our backs on the fundamental principles of self-preservation.

**Mr. Barney Danson (York North):** Mr. Speaker, my words serve only to emphasize those of my colleague from Etobicoke (Mr. Gillespie) and also to deal with other matters which have been raised in this debate. There are times when one is not so proud to be in this house due to the conduct of people and the quality of debate, but I do not think we can say that about this evening's debate. I think the motivation of it was perhaps ill-founded but sincere. I think that the contribution to it by all has been of high standard, and given with sincerity even if we do not always agree. I am particularly proud of the contributions of the leader of my party, of the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp) and of the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Cadieux) for the semblance of reality they brought to a very serious subject.

In my short time here, Mr. Speaker, I have found that one of the easiest areas in which to make simple judgments is that of external affairs. Yet as one gets into it, one realizes that simple judgments are simply not valid. The complexities are indeed great, but it is very simple for those without the responsibility to criticize and almost appear credible.

The eloquence of the leader of the New Democratic party and the eloquence of the leader of the Creditiste party is at times captivating in its simplicity. One could accept their simplistic statements if one did not think about them, but we must deal with realities and the realities are not always pleasant. We have to live in the world as it is rather than how we would like it to be, and this is not always easy.

The Minister of National Defence read an inventory of weaponry that was chilling, but yet this is a fact of life. It reminded me of the time about 25 years ago I was listening in a convalescent hospital to a radio broadcast when Mr. Harry Truman, then President of the United States, announced the dropping of the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima. It opened up vistas of horror that one could barely imagine. Those who at that time realized the significance of this saw that horror and wondered how to cope with it.

The easy answer at that time was that our side had the bomb and we might as well use

#### *Firing of A.B.M. Warheads over Canada*

it before the other side got it. By doing so we would eliminate fewer people than if both sides had the bomb and used it. But fortunately some sanity prevailed and we have through some peculiar system of balances developed an arsenal of weaponry which has kept us at a relative level of peace, at least saving us from total destruction over those years, which is remarkable considering the potential for destruction that exists by error, let alone design.

I really get terribly upset when I hear my hon. friends across the way refer to anyone who shows any sense of reality in this situation, any knowledge about the real effects of this weaponry, the dangers of this weaponry, and is able to list an inventory of it, as a hawk. We do not have an easy answer to this, but we must know what we are talking about. We should forget about this weaponry and direct our energies along more constructive lines. I was thinking of the conference on housing at which Mr. Buckminster Fuller said that we have to do something even though we cannot afford it. He pointed out that when there are things such as wars, we do handle the problem and raise the money. But, unfortunately, that is an oversimplification, because we cannot deal with life and our problems in separate compartments; they are all part of the whole. My friend, the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville (Mr. Nystrom) is delightfully naïve. It is a pleasure to see him in this house with his lovely young fiancée. They have all their lives ahead of them. They deserve a lot of credit for the courage they have in facing a very complicated future.

● (12 midnight)

The answers are not simple. It is so easy to blame things on the faults of past generations. As I said the other day, this generation can and will make mistakes just as we have made ours. It is very easy to have 20-20 hindsight, but it is foresight, courage and realism we need. The concern of all of us here is for peace. I really believe this is the concern of the President of the United States and the people of the United States. We may not agree with their way of going about it, but to try to support debating points over this is really not resolving our problem; nor is it any good to stand by being "ready, yea, ready".

We have a legitimate point to make; that is, that we want to maintain the sovereignty that is ours. As my friend, the hon. member for Etobicoke (Mr. Gillespie) said, we can stand up and express our views because we have