

points out of the Canadian Arctic to prevent allied nuclear submarines from transiting into the basin.¹⁸

The alternatives to nuclear submarines in terms of the role they would play in the Arctic are mining and increased passive surveillance.¹⁹

After the official announcement of the purchase of nuclear submarines in the Defence White Paper,²⁰ opposition members began questioning the Government on the estimated cost of the programme. NDP member Derek Blackburn asked for an estimate of the total cost of the programme including the development of a training infrastructure. The Acting Minister of National Defence Harvie Andre responded, "...nuclear submarines cost 1.6 time as much as conventional submarines. For that expenditure you get at least three times the capability in defence commitments...."²¹

Current References

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Young, Commander E. J. M., "Submarines for the Canadian Maritime Forces" Canadian Defence Quarterly, Summer 1986, pp. 25-36.

¹⁸ SCND Proceedings, 28 Jan. 1987, p. 24.

¹⁹ For full discussion of the issue see: SCND Proceedings, Issue no. 3, Issue no. 6, Issue no. 8, 28 Jan. 1987, 17 Mar. 1987, 26 Mar. 1987.

²⁰ DND, Challenge and Commitment, 5 June 1987, pp. 52-53.

²¹ Commons Debates, 8 June 1987, p. 6836.