

U.S. Undersecretary of Defense, that the most important, crucial, and dangerous part of development in space is the star wars defence initiative. The Americans say they are not prepared to negotiate it. I ask again, will the Government undertake at that meeting to pressure and press the President to have his negotiators discuss star wars and put it on the table, so there will not be any development of that initiative in outer space and so that we can come to an agreement that will provide further stability?

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, for all who wish to know the facts and wish to be guided by them, they are clearly on the table. If the Hon. Member is concerned about weapons in space, as we are, and as the Secretary of State of the United States and Mr. Gromyko are, he should know that that item is already on the agenda for discussion at Geneva.

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#### NORTH AMERICAN AIR DEFENCE

##### SYSTEMS MERGER

**Mr. Derek Blackburn (Brant):** Mr. Speaker, my question is also for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. The Government insists there is no connection between the Strategic Defence Initiative and the North Warning System. Why then are the U.S. Air Force and NORAD merging their missile, air, and space warning systems, under a new NORAD space command at Cheyenne, Colorado?

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member would know that those arrangements have been in place for some long time, well before there was discussion of the Strategic Defence Initiative.

##### NORTH WARNING SYSTEM—REVIEW BY PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE

**Mr. Derek Blackburn (Brant):** Mr. Speaker, the only way that we can clear the air on this is not by putting questions back and forth in the House, but to follow the former Prime Minister's suggestion of five years ago that we beef up the committees around this place, as they are in the United States. Any foreign treaty in the United States has to be ratified by the U.S. Senate.

Will the Secretary of State for External Affairs ask his Prime Minister if all the recorded minutes of the negotiations with respect to the upgrading of the North Warning System and the outcome of those discussions will be placed before the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence so that we, as the people's representatives, can find out exactly what is going on, the people of Canada will know what is going on, and they will be protected against any future entanglement with star wars?

#### Oral Questions

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, the record should be quite clear as to the approach this Government has taken in practice by putting the facts before parliamentary committees. For years, the Liberal Government refused to let there be any public discussion of negotiations on the North Warning System. This Government took the initiative of putting the North Warning System publicly before a Standing Committee for review. This Government also agreed that we would accept the unanimous report of a Standing Committee of this House to allow a review of NORAD arrangements a year before the renewal of the treaty. That was our own example, not one we took from the former Liberal Government, which was not at all open to Parliament.

The Hon. Member talked about the reform that is under way under the chairmanship of the distinguished Hon. Member for St. John's East, with the Hon. Member for Winnipeg-Birds Hill, and others, on the committee. I believe that there will be reforms coming forward. Certainly we on this side of the House hope that, in designing reforms effective to this Parliament, we should not blindly follow the American example. We should establish Canadian examples, and not blindly follow the American example as the NDP want to do.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

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#### HOUSE OF COMMONS

##### PRESENCE IN GALLERY OF MINISTER OF PARKS AND RENEWABLE RESOURCES OF THE PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

**Mr. Speaker:** May I interrupt the proceedings to advise Hon. Members of the presence in our gallery of the Hon. Colin Maxwell, Minister of Parks and Renewable Resources for the Province of Saskatchewan.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

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#### NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

##### COST OF ADDITIONAL CANADIAN COMPLEMENT

**Mr. Len Hopkins (Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke):** Mr. Speaker, the Minister of National Defence and the Secretary of State for External Affairs will know that we asked them to appear before the committee this week. In spite of the answer the Minister of National Defence gave me last week, he is not going to appear. He gave me a positive answer last week, and the steering committee requested his presence.

Yesterday the Minister made a statement about 1,200 Canadian troops going to Europe to join the Fourth Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group based in Lahr, West Germany. Unfortunately, the Minister did not choose to make a statement in the House, in order to give Members an opportunity to