

Mr. KNOWLES (*Winnipeg North Centre*): I wonder if the minister would be in a position to indicate how soon the final exchange of notes might take place?

Mr. SMITH (*Hastings-Frontenac*): Fairly soon. I cannot put a date on it. The recommendations have come from the integrated command.

Mr. KNOWLES (*Winnipeg North Centre*): Fairly soon or very soon?

Mr. SMITH (*Hastings-Frontenac*): Fairly soon, and that is the best I can do. I think it would be misleading to the committee if I said "very soon".

Mr. HERRIDGE: Is it the intention of the government, when the notes are completed, to have the arrangement confirmed by some document in parliament?

Mr. SMITH (*Hastings-Frontenac*): I cannot anticipate the nature of the notes. It might be that there would be a security measure involved.

Mr. HERRIDGE: Yes, but I was referring to the principle of the arrangement; something like the North Atlantic Treaty.

Mr. SMITH (*Hastings-Frontenac*): I can assure the members of the committee that it will not be loaded, in order to keep it out of the house, with security measures.

Mr. PEARSON: Might it not be a useful thing when these documents are completed to refer them to the NATO council for consideration—this is without prejudice to reference to the Canadian parliament, of course—in the hope that perhaps this command—NORAD—might be in some way more closely associated with NATO than it would be if it were a command brought about only by bilateral action under the United States-Canadian planning group of NATO which is not a NATO command in any sense of the word? Perhaps an opportunity might arise later on, when the work here is completed, to bring this command into some closer association with NATO, just as the four other commands have been set up under NATO.

Mr. SMITH (*Hastings-Frontenac*): I assure the hon. member that we will keep his observations in mind.

Mr. KNOWLES (*Winnipeg North Centre*): I take it you will also keep in mind the implication of Mr. Herridge's question, that some persons feel it would be desirable to have parliament action in connection with any decision reached by the government?

Mr. SMITH (*Hastings-Frontenac*): Has that always been true? I am here to answer questions, I should not be asking them.

Mr. KNOWLES (*Winnipeg North Centre*): It was certainly done with respect to NATO.

Mr. PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, would it not be necessary for this to be very closely tied in with NATO because of the clause in the NATO agreement, which states, that an attack on any one is an attack on all and, in the event of the other nations of NATO being drawn into it, then there would have to be some correlation between the command in North America and the entire NATO command.

Mr. SMITH (*Hastings-Frontenac*): That is another facet, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. PEARSON: Leaving aside for the moment the question of the procedure as to how this agreement has been reached, and the political implication of it, and all that sort of thing which we have been discussing, I am worried about an arrangement which will make possible a very quick defensive action in an emergency, because that would be essential in an emergency. Perhaps it is more worrying to think that once defensive action was taken, of that kind, retaliatory action might follow immediately, and that action is now not under