

*Oral Questions*

What I have to say is that foreign investors in Canada are welcome from the moment they are considered to be of net benefit for the country.

Canadians know very well that we need new technology and that we need to keep and develop our labour force.

Canadians also know that those foreign investors bring to Canada investment which will provide net benefits. I know that my colleague knows that very well.

If he were to compare the 1984 figures with today's, he would see that there is no comparison to when FIRA was in place.

**Mr. Jim Peterson (Willowdale):** Mr. Speaker, so much for the theory and the rhetoric.

Let us look at the facts, what the minister talked about himself.

First, research and development is on the decline under this government.

Second, in terms of the record number of takeovers welcomed by this government, we have now seen that 46 per cent of Canadian manufacturing is foreign controlled.

**Some hon. members:** Question.

**Mr. Peterson:** We have seen how Canada—

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member is setting the basis of his question. I think that that is done and that he should put his question.

**Mr. Peterson:** My question is this, Mr. Speaker. As his country has lost 107,000 manufacturing jobs since January of last year, when will the minister announce new measures to stop this job loss, to give Canadian manufacturers a level playing field?

**Hon. Benoît Bouchard (Minister of Industry, Science and Technology):** Mr. Speaker, as usual my friend forgets to refer to the jobs which have been created by foreign investors who have invested here in Canada. It is wrong for him to say that we have less money for research and development. But that has always been the song by the Liberal party.

When we consider the number of jobs created in this country since 1984, we see there is no comparison with what the Liberals did before 1984.

Once again, we are proud of what we have done in terms of job creation and industrial development.

We will continue to welcome investors from abroad, if they respect the net benefits for Canada.

We have many examples of success stories, something which he knows very well.

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**NATIONAL DEFENCE**

**Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg Transcona):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Defence.

I am hoping that the Minister of National Defence has had an opportunity to read the speech given by the right hon. Secretary of State for External Affairs on Saturday in which the Secretary of State for External Affairs said: "It makes little sense to retain nuclear weapons whose only target can be our new friends in Poland, Czechoslovakia and East Germany".

**Some hon. members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Blaikie:** This sounds remarkably like something I said to the Minister of National Defence just last Thursday, something for which he felt it appropriate to ridicule me and to reject.

**Some hon. members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Blaikie:** Does the Minister of National Defence now agree with the view that the Secretary of State for External Affairs has expressed or is there some discrepancy which exists between himself and the minister? If there is no discrepancy, is he prepared to say today that the government is now considering cancelling testing of the cruise missile and refusing even to be asked to test any new delivery system for nuclear weapons?

**Some hon. members:** Hear, hear!

**Hon. Bill McKnight (Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, I must apologize to my colleague if he feels I was picking on him. I was just drawing to his attention the inaccuracies of a statement that he made.

Anyone who is concerned about the foreign policy of this government should read in its entirety the speech of the right hon. Secretary of State for External Affairs. I would suggest that the hon. member read it in its entirety.