

Supply—National Defence

Mr. Speakman: It is.

Mr. Hellyer:—in terms of economic development and status among the nations of the world.

Mr. Speakman: It is the best country in the world.

Mr. Hellyer: They hoped to bring up their children in Canada to enjoy its great future. I do not see that they could reasonably be blamed for this. All of our forefathers from the great mother countries came here for precisely that reason. I do not think there is anything wrong with people coming to Canada to join us in the development of this large but yet young country.

We have been told that approximately 2,500 of these people have gone back to the United Kingdom. This represents a capital loss which can only be estimated in the hundreds of millions. We are also told that most of the Canadian born engineers, scientists and technicians who are not still employed at Avro have crossed the border into the United States. This is another great loss to our country. Something more than the Avro Arrow has been killed. The cancellation of it has killed the hopes and aspirations of countless thousands of people—

Mr. Ricard: Can you name one of them? Can you name one who has gone across the border?

Mr. Hellyer: If the hon. member wishes me to give him a list I can give him a list of hundreds.

Mr. Ricard: Let us have it now.

Mr. Hellyer: I shall be pleased to provide it.

Mr. Ricard: Let us have it now.

The Deputy Chairman: Order.

Mr. Hellyer: In addition, the cancellation of this project represented to many thousands of young Canadians the bursting of the bubble, the disintegration of their dreams and visions of a greater and growing Canada.

Mr. Ricard: You have not answered my question.

Mr. Hellyer: They have lost faith in the destiny of this country.

Mr. Ricard: You have not yet answered me.

Mr. Hellyer: I can mention one name for my hon. friend, that of Mr. Floyd—

Mr. Ricard: You said hundreds or thousands.

Mr. Hellyer: But you just asked for one name.

Mr. Ricard: I asked for all of them.

[Mr. Hellyer.]

The Deputy Chairman: Order. The hon. member for Trinity has the floor. If any hon. member wishes to ask a question, he should rise in his place and request permission of the hon. member who has the floor to do so.

Mr. Hellyer: As I have said, the losses to this country have been most substantial and the greatest of these have been in the fact that people have gone from Canada and people have lost faith in this country. As my leader said earlier today, immigration has been slowed down as a result. As a matter of fact we now need a minister of emigration because half as many people have gone back to the United Kingdom as have come here—

Mr. Speakman: Nonsense.

Mr. Grafftey: Stick to your text.

Mr. Hellyer: Someone says, "Nonsense". That is a plain, unadulterated fact.

Mr. Speakman: Canada will be the greatest country in the world.

Mr. Hellyer: It will be in three years when we have another change in government.

Mr. Ricard: You will not be here to see it.

Mr. Hellyer: After the cancellation was made and the dreams and hopes of thousands of people had been shattered, what happened? Following this, one would have thought the government would want to minimize its losses to the greatest possible extent.

Mr. Speakman: The government had no losses.

Mr. Hellyer: One would have thought the government would want to do everything possible to recover as much of the accumulated skills and knowledge from this project as could be recovered. Was that the case? Let us examine the facts.

At the time of the cancellation there were five aircraft airworthy, or almost airworthy, and a sixth which was to be the first aircraft equipped with Iroquois engines which could have been ready to fly within a matter of a few weeks. What has been the disposal of these aircraft? Were they offered to any of our allies to be made available for testing? This is something the minister should tell us. Did the Canadian government offer to give these planes to any of our NATO allies if they would use them for the accumulated benefit of the western alliance? Were any requests made that they should be made available? Did the Canadian government itself not consider the possibility of any use to which they could be put? What about the radar lines? Could they not have been used to test our radar defences? Could they not have been used in obtaining for us greater