

Oral Questions

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Mulroney: The Hon. Member is saying that President Reagan is less committed to peace than the other side. We reject that.

Mr. Axworthy: Take a cap in your hand and put it on your head.

Mr. Mulroney: The United States is trying with the help of its allies to secure a durable peace. We believe it is a complicated issue, and we are going to try to be helpful to both sides in securing that kind of a peace in the world.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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● (1140)

NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS

U.S. AIRCRAFT IN CANADA

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, my question is also directed to the Prime Minister. I hope I am not misquoting him; I am certainly trying not to. However, I understood him to have said that his Government inherited certain agreements which did not contain proper safeguards to guarantee that Canada's Government could deny access to Canadian soil to the U.S. Strategic Air Command. Is he saying to the House of Commons that the regulation which is in place in the U.S. that allows the U.S. Strategic Air Command to locate aircraft carrying nuclear weapons in Cold Lake, has been done away with, is no longer in place, and Canada is now in a position where that particular regulation is no longer in force?

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the position is abundantly clear. I have stated it before today and I state it again. There can be no stationing of nuclear weapons in any circumstances on Canadian soil without the agreement of the Government of Canada. In so far as this Government is concerned, if we believe that such a proposed stationing would not be in the Canadian interest, we would refuse such a stationing.

U.S. ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, does the Secretary of State for External Affairs or the Prime Minister recognize that there is a different opinion in the United States administration in regard to the regulation which they believe permits them, in emergency situations, to locate aircraft carrying nuclear weapons at Cold Lake, and makes no reference to Canada's right or otherwise to agree or disagree with the locating of those aircraft and those nuclear weapons?

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, perhaps the Hon. Member—and I say this with all the kindness I can muster—would do better to

rely on authorities other than articles which he might read on the op-ed page of *The Globe and Mail* as the basis of his questioning here.

Let me be categorical about it. In so far as Cold Lake and other questions are concerned, before any nuclear weapons could be considered for stationing in Canada in the event of the kind of crisis that all of us devoutly hope would not occur, this Government, and any subsequent Canadian Government, by agreements now in place, have the right to refuse that stationing. This Government would exercise that right, if we believed that to be in the interests of Canada.

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TRADE

ACCESS OF CANADIAN PRODUCTS TO JAPAN

Mr. Don Blenkarn (Mississauga South): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. We welcome him back to Canada. He was able to have extensive bilateral discussions with other world leaders. Perhaps economics is a more important matter to Canada because our people want jobs. In his discussion with Prime Minister Nakasone, was he able to discuss further access by Canada of its agricultural products to the Japanese market, and the question of import controls on automobiles produced by Japan and imported into Canada?

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I had an excellent meeting with Prime Minister Nakasone at which those topics were raised, particularly the latter one to which the Hon. Member referred and which is of great interest to Canada, particularly southwestern Ontario. We had further discussions in regard to the agenda of the meeting at Bonn which we will both be attending. I took the liberty, given the importance of the Japanese-Canadian relationship, particularly the Pacific Rim and the involvement of western Canada, to extend an invitation to the Prime Minister to visit us in Canada this year at his earliest convenience.

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ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

CANADA-UNITED STATES AGREEMENT ON ACID RAIN

Mr. Neil Young (Beaches): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. Is he aware of the severe criticism which is being offered by major environmental groups, on both sides of the border, about the reported agreement that is to be signed by the President of the United States and the Prime Minister this weekend? In fact it has even been suggested that Canada is being sucked in, if we go along with this agreement. Could the Prime Minister assure the House and the Canadian people that we will not just sit back and accept some kind of agreement to enter into further discussions on acid rain, but that he will press the President of the United States for real action on this very critical subject?