

further representations to the United States to abandon this dangerous unilateral initiative.⁵

NDP member Derek Blackburn called upon the Government to state that it would end cruise missile testing if the US exceeds SALT II limits:

Let us be just as vocal about our opposition to American threats to abandon SALT II later this year. It would be ironic if deployment of the air-launched cruise missile, which Canada helped develop, broke SALT II. Canada should make clear that we would no longer allow cruise missile testing in Canada if the US broke SALT II.⁶

Mr. Blackburn also asked:

...if Canada continues to develop the air-launched cruise, regardless of what transpires in the meantime, is it not supporting the Reagan administration policy that SALT II should not be considered in determining deployments?⁷

Mr. Clark responded:

Mr. Speaker, the short answer to that is no, because the ultimate decision on SALT II limits has yet to be taken. If I may just underline... the importance of making the case to both the Americans and the Soviet Union, there is an expectation on the part of Canadians that both of them will respect the Treaty. The Americans have, the Soviet Union has not. We should be making the case to the Soviet Union, on questions such as, for example, the way they are encrypting telemetry and on the way they have moved into a second system, that they are in violation of the SALT II limits. If they believe they are not, they should respond to the representations of Canada and other countries and make that evidence clear.⁸

⁵ Commons Debates, 5 June 1986, p. 13999.

⁶ Commons Debates, 29 May 1986, p. 13760.

⁷ Commons Debates, 2 June 1986, p. 13864.

⁸ Ibid.