February 21, 1966

Supply-National Defence

about the boast that he was going to save a great deal of money and funnel it into buying what he calls hardware. He did not answer the question, when the member for Calgary North said that the percentage going into the supplies of military hardware was down to 12 per cent, the lowest figure yet. He did not have an answer for that. That was the boast he made three years ago, and he has not accomplished that objective.

Yet he has spread the propaganda across this country that that was what he was going to do. It is false propaganda. He did not touch on the question of atomic weapons, put to him by members on this side of the house, and particularly by members of the New Democratic party. He did not answer that. He has atomic weapons now, with hardware that he said the United States had thrown away or discarded years ago. He is keeping the CF-104, the aircraft with the air division in Europe. He is keeping the Honest John missile discharger, or rocket. He has retained the Voodoos, and he has kept the Bomarcs. Yet in 1960, as I recollect his statement, he said these were useless, discarded weapons. However, he has retained them.

There was a long period before he had any atomic weapons for the CF-104. He has not told us yet whether they are available now. He did not have any atomic weapons for the Voodoos in this country for two years. He has not told us whether the atomic missile is available for the Honest John.

Mr. Nielsen: They are negotiating.

Mr. Churchill: He has not said whether the Bomarcs are to be kept in their useless post or not, but he placed atomic weapons on Canadian soil. He and the Prime Minister for three solid years have misled the Canadian people, because the Prime Minister said that he would negotiate out of the atomic weapons-

Mr. Herridge: That is right.

Mr. Churchill: And he was supported by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, and the Minister of National Defence. These three ministers have misled the people of this country for three years.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Churchill: On Thursday or Friday when I asked the Prime Minister that question he said that it had been answered by the Prime Minister if he had had success in [Mr. Churchill.]

fulfilling his promise of three years ago, and he said that question had been answered by the Minister of National Defence. In other words, the Prime Minister was saying to us and to the Canadian people that his promise to negotiate out of atomic weapons had been fulfilled.

It was a false statement. The Minister of National Defence in his speech had said that he had made atomic weapons available to those various weapon systems-

Mr. Nielsen: For political reasons.

Mr. Churchill: —and this is the type of false propaganda that has been spread across the country, for political reasons, as my friend suggests.

On the subject of morale the minister declaimed at great length. You know, we must put our complete faith in what this minister says, or he is offended.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Nielsen: The trained seals again, the old beavers.

Mr. Churchill: He is offended if we do not believe him. His feelings are hurt. He said, "You are shooting buckshot at me and it irritates my skin." And he gets up to declaim and says that the morale of the forces is very high. He made a false statement here, in the absence of the member for Calgary North, saying that the morale of the forces was at its lowest ebb in 1960 and 1961. It is at its lowest ebb today. That has been brought out by the facts and figures from this side of the house.

An hon. Member: Whom did they vote for?

Mr. Nielsen: Whom were they told to vote for?

Some hon. Members: Shame.

Mr. Nielsen: That is no shame, that is true.

Mr. Churchill: I would not mind having an investigation made with regard to the service vote in this country. It is rather strange that in 1958, when there was a landslide in favour of the Conservative party, 80 per cent of the service vote was still tagging along with the Grits. Talk about people being out of touch with what is going on with Canada-

Some hon. Members: Shame.

Some hon. Members: Withdraw.

Mr. Churchill: I withdraw nothing. Our Minister of National Defence. I asked the servicemen do not get the full information as to what is going on in this country. This is