

*Adjournment Debate*

tion of shipments of nuclear aid and technology to that country, did not care to inform himself 48 hours after the conclusion of those discussions as to the outcome of any accord or agreement entered into. He did not inform himself as to conditions Canada might require India to observe before we entered into the accord. He was too preoccupied with his party's domestic concerns in Quebec to discover what this country was negotiating with another country which had already broken the terms of a contract relating to nuclear matters.

I am appalled. In our own, unthinking way, we may be instrumental in unleashing a nuclear holocaust on this world, yet the Prime Minister does not feel accountable to Parliament or the people of this country, and will not explain the terms of the accord.

As a country we cannot stand apart from such conflicts. We cannot stand apart from international conditions which we have allowed to escalate. We have helped nuclear knowledge to spread in the world. As a country we are responsible for our actions and cannot rationalize away that responsibility. We must meet our responsibilities.

We, as a country, have been very fortunate in the knowledge we developed in the last 30 years in the field of nuclear technology. We have not at the same time learned how to contain the spread of nuclear waste. As long as we continue selling, perpetrating, and spreading across this world the nuclear energy we have without any kind of reference, containment or guarantee, there is only one way open to Canada. That is to place a ban or moratorium on all extension and all effort to spread abroad our nuclear technology, fuels, and capability until such time as there is a world agreement that there will be no further explosion of nuclear weapons. Until there is that agreement, Canada should declare an over-all ban, a total moratorium on the export of its nuclear technology.

[Translation]

**Miss Monique Bégin (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, the Canadians who would have heard the speech of my colleague from Kingston and the Islands (Miss MacDonald) tonight might believe that their government is totally irresponsible with regard to nuclear technological knowl-

edge transfer and aid to Third World countries, which is not the case. I respect the concern expressed by my colleague, but I strongly oppose the overly harsh words, I feel, she has used, the vagueness of her statements and the fact that those statements entertain the latent fear of every Canadian for the nuclear field, since Canadians have always wanted peace in the world.

[English]

The negotiations in New Delhi on safeguards only finished over the week end and officials are now studying the reports received. Nothing seems abnormal in these procedures. In these circumstances it would not be appropriate for me to comment on the course that these negotiations followed. I am sure the hon. member knows that since she referred to the fact that it was only last Friday that she asked her question. Once the report of officials has been studied by the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. MacEachen), he will no doubt wish to answer members questions on this issue.

With regard to the relation between nuclear co-operation and NPT ratification, however, I would like to reiterate our policy. NPT adherence is not an absolute pre-condition to nuclear trade on commercial terms with other countries. Binding international safeguards meeting Canadian standards on Canadian supplies, are, however, such a prerequisite. It is for this reason that Canada has been negotiating with a number of countries.

This is a continuing process, not something that stops one day with a perfect agreement which everybody signs. It is an on-going process which we try to improve according to new knowledge. However, NPT adherence is a pre-condition for extending bilateral government development assistance resources in the nuclear field. Canada will only make new commitments for extending such bilateral aid—as opposed to completing existing undertakings—to NPT parties.

● (2230)

In the case of India, amended and strengthened safeguards on both RAPP reactors would be a precondition for completing such deliveries as remain outstanding for the second RAPP reactor.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.31 p.m.