

## NORTH AMERICAN AIR DEFENCE

NORTH WARNING SYSTEM—PRIME MINISTER'S DISCUSSION  
WITH SOVIET LEADER

**Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Winnipeg-Fort Garry):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to address questions to the Prime Minister, who seems to be having a wonderful time this morning rewriting history. As he well knows, it was Prime Minister Diefenbaker who signed the agreement to put nuclear weapons on Canadian soil. That is history, not his version of it.

**Mr. Clark (Yellowhead):** Where is Otto Lang?

**Mr. Axworthy:** What we want to raise with the Prime Minister goes back to the discussions he had with the General Secretary of the Soviet Union.

In those discussions did the Prime Minister communicate that his Government has now agreed to accept the new American version of North American defence that incorporates not only the star wars program but also a major new ground based defence system that is designed to set up a screen rather than relying upon deterrence? We have not been able to get any answers from the Prime Minister's Ministers in his absence that this is now the new government policy. What we need to know, Mr. Speaker, before that agreement is signed in Quebec city, is whether this is now the policy of the new Conservative Government of Canada? Is the Government now agreeing fully to the new defence strategy enunciated by President Reagan and by Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger that there will be a brand new strategy of defence that will involve a major introduction and involvement of military developments in the northern part of Canada?

**Mr. Clark (Yellowhead):** Somebody elect Tom.

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I am impressed with the temerity, there is no better word, of the Hon. Member. The Hon. Member's Party signed an international agreement with the United States wherein Canadian Cabinet Ministers had to seek American permission to go to the Canadian North. That is the way the Liberals abdicated their responsibilities. I can tell the Hon. Member that that will never happen with a Conservative Government.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**An Hon. Member:** It was Pearson who did that.

**Mr. Mulroney:** I want to say to the new critic for external relations for the Liberal Party—

**Mr. Clark (Yellowhead):** Tom's brother.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Mulroney:** I wish I had said that.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Hnatyshyn:** What about Otto's friend?

**Mr. Mulroney:** Otto's friend.

## Oral Questions

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Mulroney:** I think the Secretary of State for External Affairs, with great clarity and strength, has set out the position of the Canadian Government on that. I know that my hon. friend is not satisfied. He would like it to be otherwise. He would like the issue to be befuddled so that he can try to score a few political points, but Canadians are not having any of it.

The position set out by the Secretary of State for External Affairs is the Canadian position, the hallmark of which is clarity and the preservation of Canadian independence and integrity.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Axworthy:** Mr. Speaker, the problem with the Prime Minister is he judges other people's motives by looking in the mirror. Not everything is motivated by pure partisan political objectives.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

## UNITED STATES STRATEGIC DEFENCE INITIATIVE

**Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Winnipeg-Fort Garry):** The fact of the matter is, Mr. Speaker, that there are millions of Canadians who are deeply disturbed by the actions of this Government in endorsing the star wars proposal. This Opposition is speaking for those Canadians. We want to know whether at Quebec city the Prime Minister will have the fortitude and the willingness to speak for those Canadians as well, and ask President Reagan to put star wars on the bargaining table at Geneva, so we will not engage and support an action that will destabilize the arms race? Will this Prime Minister start standing up for this country instead of acting like the Governor of the 51st State?

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I think the Leader of the Opposition had better put the Hon. Member for Winnipeg-Fort Garry back in charge of some part of the rail thing. He is out of his league in External Affairs.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Mulroney:** It will come as a great surprise to Mr. Gorbachev who very much told me those topics were on the agenda in Geneva and the Soviet Union proposed to discuss them emphatically.

**Mr. Axworthy:** Who will the U.S. discuss them with? That is the question.

**Mr. Mulroney:** My hon. friend is impugning as he always does, the motives of the United States in every circumstance, and he is saying that the United States is untrustworthy in everything it does.

**Mr. Axworthy:** What are you going to do?

**Mr. Mulroney:** We reject that very strongly.