

colleague, the Minister of Transport has issued guidelines to control this water dumping.

There are no less than 26 research projects ongoing on this matter. Steps are being taken to inform the public of the means that can be taken to limit the movement and proliferation of zebra mussels from one lake to another. We agree that Ontario is doing a good job on this problem and we are working very closely with the province.

We would like to commend the fact that Hydro Ontario is devoting \$10 million a year in research funding for this project.

**Mr. Joe Comuzzi (Thunder Bay—Nipigon):** A supplementary to the same minister. The voluntary guidelines introduced by the federal government only address ships in the St. Lawrence Seaway by asking them to change their ballast water on the high seas rather than in the seaway.

As of today all of Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair and half of Lake Ontario are totally infested with the zebra mussel. There were reports over the weekend that Lake Huron and Lake Superior now have the first indications of the terrible zebra mussel being there. Will the minister do something constructive today to stop the infestation in the Great Lakes, particularly Lakes Huron and Superior where the zebra mussel do not yet have a foothold?

**Hon. Lucien Bouchard (Minister of the Environment):** Mr. Speaker, apart from what I have just said, my department is currently completing consultations for new legislation to control wild animal and plant transportation into Canada. This will be the way to stop the introduction of zebra mussels into Canada.

The main thing we must do is identify ways in which to fight proliferation in our waters. The research projects under way are directly related to that.

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#### NATIONAL DEFENCE

**Mr. Derek Lee (Scarborough—Rouge River):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Associate Minister of National Defence.

#### Oral Questions

The Canadian Armed Forces have always served Canadians well on the premise that we tell them clearly what we want them to do and then give them the right tools to do the job.

The CF-18 aircraft has an air speed envelope that may be too high for some of our air sovereignty functions, especially drug interdiction operations. Will the minister tell us how the government can fulfil its aircraft drug interdiction role using the CF-18 without endangering the safety of our pilots, and whether it will need to secure other aircraft for this purpose?

**Hon. Mary Collins (Associate Minister of National Defence and Minister responsible for Status of Women):** Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member may know, following an agreement with NORAD last year, we are now using our assets to assist with the interdiction of aircraft, if necessary, under NORAD agreements. We also require that slow-flying and unidentified aircraft identify themselves. If they do not, we are able to use our own capability to track them until they land.

When the CF-18s are on their regular missions, they can be involved in this kind of exercise and can be used, as can our other resources such as the Aurora aircraft, or other facilities. In this way we are entering into the fight on drugs and, as has been shown already, we have been successful in several ventures.

**Mr. Derek Lee (Scarborough—Rouge River):** Mr. Speaker, what I am really asking is whether we have the equipment to do the job. Yesterday the Minister of National Defence announced the implementation of a directed landings policy which will require all aircraft flying into Canadian air space without a filed flight plan to force land at a port of entry.

Will the minister confirm to the House that this new policy has been made necessary by the inability of the government to carry out effective and comprehensive air sovereignty surveillance, including drug interdiction?

**Hon. Mary Collins (Associate Minister of National Defence and Minister responsible for Status of Women):** Mr. Speaker, no, certainly I would not agree with that.

The policy of requiring unidentified aircraft to land is part of trying to ensure that aircraft smuggling drugs cannot get into Canadian airspace. It is one of the