

## NORAD—Canada-U.S. Agreement

eastern Atlantic area; the air commander in chief, eastern Atlantic area.

Then we come to the Canada-United States regional planning group, from which this co-ordination in North America stems. The commander in chief, north American air defence is a command in relation to the Canada-United States regional planning group which occupies a position similar in nature to that held by the various commanders in chief. In other words, sir, what we have done has been reported to NATO by the Canada-United States regional planning group. I can go further than that and point out the fact that everything that is done is being presented to NATO; and when it is said that this scheme has no connection with NATO I would point out that on December 21, 1957 when I reported on the NATO meeting with the heads of state in Paris I said, as reported on page 2721 of *Hansard*:

The United States particularly impressed upon the representatives there—

That is at the meeting.

—the necessity of co-ordination in defence production, the co-ordination of research and development. I pointed out in that connection something to which I now refer again in this house as a striking example of how the principle of co-ordination and interdependence within the alliance can be employed. I refer to the arrangements we made with the United States government for the integrated air defence of North America under what is called NORAD. I want to re-emphasize that I pointed out there, and it was accepted as a fact, that these integrated forces are an integral part of the NATO military structure in the Canada-United States region;—

I reiterate those words today; for when speaking there in the presence of my colleagues already referred to that was the statement I made, and there was at no time any suggestion of demurral respecting that conclusion. I continue with the quotation:

—that there is a committee of NATO dealing with Canada-United States relations in this regard, and that anything we have done has been reported to the standing group and that course will be followed in the future. The NATO council will have full reports on everything we do, similar to the practice followed in all other NATO military commands.

When you look at the plan, and when you see it again in detail in this report to which I have made reference, namely the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, 1957, you realize how difficult it is to understand why there should be so much said about a matter such as this. As I said a moment ago, in Europe no question has been raised about placing Canadian forces under the operational control of NATO commanders. Survival knows none of the fineries of a nationalism that used to exist.

Moreover, I say this. As I said a moment ago this agreement represents the culmination of negotiations carried on by the previous government. What was done must have been

done with the knowledge of the Leader of the Opposition, whose departmental officials were actually and actively involved in the process. Furthermore, the substance of the military arrangements had been agreed upon, though I am frank to admit they had not received the final approval, which was allowed to remain in abeyance until June 15. The diplomatic steps to cover the military arrangements were not taken. Everything else had been done.

When we took office the government came to the conclusion that this integration of operational control of our air defence was important and should no longer be delayed, and authorized the establishment of the joint NORAD headquarters on a provisional basis pending the working out of some detailed minor terms of agreement between our governments.

I now come to a reference to the agreement in question. I am not going into detail because it is before you in *Hansard* of May 19. I will not recapitulate. I will summarize, however, and say that that agreement gives the background, purpose and nature of the joint air defence command. It sets forth the principles on which that defence command will operate. It emphasizes in every line its main purpose; not aggression but defence; the insurance of huge and complex air defence forces—in the nature of things huge and complex—which will operate with maximum effectiveness and on a moment's notice in defence of North America and its people and resources. It contains as well the power to retaliate against aggressors.

For this purpose the agreement puts these forces under the operation of a single joint headquarters, of which the senior official is a United States air force general and his deputy is a Canadian air marshal. I would point out this fact also. Just as some Canadian forces will operate under the control of a United States general, much larger United States forces for a considerable part of the time will operate under the control of the Canadian deputy commander. That fact was accepted in the United States as a reasonable feature of the agreement.

Recently I met with General Partridge, the commander in chief of NORAD and Air Marshal Slemon, the deputy commander in chief, together with the Minister of National Defence, and we were able to review the organization. We reviewed as well their problems and the plans they formulated to meet the changing circumstances, for as yet they are operating largely with the equipment, units and plans that were in existence when the joint headquarters took over. However, it will not be long before further developments will have to be considered in the