

people interviewed in December opposed the tests, 37 percent were in favor, and 11 percent were non-committal (*The Citizen*, January 17). It was also reported that a coalition of disarmament groups in Canada was preparing a court challenge of Ottawa's decision to test the Cruise missile. The legal test will cite Article 7 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which says that "everyone has the right to life, liberty, and the security of the person and the right not to be deprived thereof except in accordance with the principles of fundamental justice" (*Globe and Mail*, January 20).

The results of the Gallup poll were discussed in the House of Commons January 20. Miss Jewett claimed that both the External Affairs Minister and the Defence Minister had, after the results were published, called the Canadian public ignorant of the complexities involved. She asked Mr. MacEachen why, "if he is so anxious for the Canadian public to be knowledgeable on this matter, that it should know nothing about it, and that the agreement would be signed in Washington and not in Ottawa?" Mr. MacEachen denied calling the Canadian public ignorant on the question. "What I have said was that with respect to a specific question that was put in the Gallup poll, namely, that it was an incomplete question and did not include all the factors that had to be taken into account in reaching a judgment on the Cruise missile." The External Affairs Minister also said that when the umbrella agreement is signed, it will be tabled in the House and all its contents will be made known to the Canadian public.

Among groups protesting the nuclear Cruise testing in January were a group of about eighty war veterans called the Veterans for Multilateral Disarmament (*Globe and Mail*, January 21), a dozen young protesters who were forcibly ejected from the Public Gallery of the House of Commons on January 25 after yelling "Refuse the Cruise" (*Globe and Mail*, January 26), and the BC Chapter of the Physicians for Social Responsibility, which has 260 members. This group had written to the editor of the *Globe and Mail* (January 26) calling the Cruise missile a first-strike, unverifiable weapon, the testing of which would violate Canada's commitment to the "suffocating of the arms race."

On January 25 it was reported that the umbrella agreement for weapons testing would not be signed for at least another ten days. Mr. MacEachen, on his way to meetings in Europe for eight days, told reporters that he wanted to be in Ottawa when the agreement was signed to answer for the government's decision (*The Citizen*, January 25).

### **Security: Spy Trial in Britain**

The trial of Canadian professor Hugh Hambleton, which had begun in late November, ended on December 7 when Mr. Hambleton pleaded guilty in Britain to passing on top-secret NATO documents to the Soviet Union between 1956 and 1961. Another charge against Mr. Hambleton, that he had passed useful information to an enemy from 1956 to 1979, was left to "lie on the file" after Mr. Hambleton pleaded guilty to the first count. He was sentenced to ten years in a British prison.

• Among the complicated aspects of the case was the fact that the RCMP Security Service had known of some of Mr. Hambleton's activities since 1980 when Mr. Hambleton was still in Canada. However, it had been revealed in the House that the Justice Department had determined that

there was not the right kind of evidence about Mr. Hambleton's activities to prosecute him successfully in Canada under the Official Secrets Act. He was, however, warned that he would be prosecuted if he went to Britain, which is what happened.

The whole issue, including statements at the trial by Mr. Hambleton's lawyer that his client had been a double agent working for Canada and France to infiltrate the KGB, was repeatedly brought up in the House of Commons (December 1, 3, 6, 7, 8, 10, 13). The major line of questioning concerned why Mr. Hambleton could not have been prosecuted in Canada after he had admitted breaches of national security (passing on the NATO secrets) to the RCMP. On December 6, Ray Hnatyshyn (PC, Saskatoon) said that Canada had become the "laughing stock of the world" because it was unable to prosecute a spy in the country. The Justice Minister repeated earlier government statements that it had been established that there were deficiencies in the Official Secrets Act, and that he was planning to bring forward amendments to remedy them.

## **TRADE/ECONOMIC**

### **Canagrex**

Debate on Bill C-85, the Act to establish Canagrex, was limited to two days after Parties could not agree on the allocation of time on report stage and third reading stage in December. Canagrex is the proposed Crown corporation to promote, facilitate and engage in the export of agricultural and food products from Canada. The PC Party had recently been in opposition to the establishment of the Crown corporation, as had many farm and business groups. They believed that the establishment of a new Crown corporation was not the way to aid agricultural exports. On December 13, Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan introduced a motion to limit debate on the report and third reading stages of the Bill to one hour for each stage. This use of "closure" prompted Conservative leader Joe Clark the next day to accuse the government of holding in contempt the spirit of parliamentary reform by refusing to allow Canagrex to be discussed in the House of Commons. Acting Prime Minister Yvon Pinard replied that it was the Conservative Party's lack of parliamentary cooperation (required to conclude an agreement on a reasonable length of time for ending the debate) that forced the government to limit debate.

The next day Vic Althouse (NDP, Humboldt-Lake Centre) presented a motion, which did not receive the required unanimous consent, that the House "cease the impasse over Canagrex and revert to its initial assessment of the Bill which was highlighted by enthusiastic support" from the Conservative leader and PC MPs at the first reading in December 1981. On December 16 the time allocation motion was passed by the Liberal majority.

In a press release December 17, Stan Hovdebo (NDP, Prince Albert) also noted that the Conservative caucus had reversed its position since the introduction of the Bill. "Mr. Clark is responding to intense pressures from his party to adopt positions matching those of Reaganite conservatism in the US," Mr. Hovdebo said. He added that the vast