

## S.O. 43

upgrade their military stance in Europe and, either directly or using Cuba as a cat's paw, are threatening stability in Africa as well, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Parry Sound-Muskoka (Mr. Darling):

That the Prime Minister stop posturing before an international audience and come forward with concrete and positive proposals as to the way Canada is prepared to improve NATO's conventional force posture, including improvements in Canada's back-up in both permanent and reserve forces.

**Mr. Speaker:** Introduction of such a motion for debate at this time would require the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

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## AIR TRANSPORT

## SUBSIDIES TO EPA—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

**Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity pursuant to Standing Order 43. In view of growing concern in Atlantic Canada that Eastern Provincial Airways, a major employer and regional air carrier, is experiencing difficulties because of inappropriate subsidy levels and other factors which have caused the airline to experience financial losses in recent years, I move, seconded by the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath):

That the Department of Transport and the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce jointly take appropriate steps to provide realistic, greater subsidies and equitable financial arrangements for the purchase of Dash-7 equipment to expedite and improve the service capability and the financial position of Eastern Provincial Airways.

**Mr. Speaker:** Introduction of such a motion for debate at this time, pursuant to Standing Order 43, requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

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## HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRESENCE IN GALLERY OF FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY  
MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL RELATIONS

**Mr. Speaker:** Before beginning the question period, I know hon. members would want to join me in recognizing the presence in our gallery of a very distinguished visitor from the Bundestag of the Federal Republic of Germany in her official capacity as one of two ministers of state responsible for international cultural relations. Dr. Hildegard Hamm-Bruecher is here on an official visit in that capacity.

● (1412)

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

[Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich).]

## ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

## GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS AT UN ON PEACE AND SECURITY

**Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Prime Minister, who is in Washington on other business today and tomorrow, I direct my question to the Deputy Prime Minister. On the basis of the evidence available to him, does the Deputy Prime Minister believe that proposals such as those made by the Prime Minister in New York last week will evoke a positive response from the U.S.S.R., that the U.S.S.R. will, in consequence, in order to promote detente, abandon its aggressive designs in Europe, Africa and Asia or make some other gesture, for example in the SALT talks, and that in the long run the prospects of peace and security in the world are being forwarded by these proposals?

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and President of Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member will have read the text of the Prime Minister's speech at the United Nations' conference in New York in which he made a number of concrete proposals in respect of the general question of disarmament. The hon. member refers specifically to what response might be expected from the Soviet Union. I hope the support the Prime Minister gave to President Carter in respect of nuclear weapons, particularly battlefield nuclear weapons, might evoke a positive response from the Soviet Union and that they might realize the ball is now in their court. It is up to them to follow President Carter in deferring the production of this particular weapon.

**Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich):** Mr. Speaker, in his usual way, I think the Deputy Prime Minister has stepped aside from the question I put to him. Therefore, can he explain to the House exactly what the government expects in the way of positive response from these proposals? Does he see any positive results at all? Is it simply a matter of the Prime Minister lecturing sanctimoniously to the rest of the world as to how the world should behave, delivering that lecture from the sheltered nuclear haven which has been provided to Canada by our close, friendly and concerned neighbour?

**Mr. MacEachen:** Mr. Speaker, I am surprised the hon. member would have picked up the rather irresponsible criticism which was directed by certain elements of the press.

**Mr. Gillies:** The government of Great Britain?

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

**Mr. MacEachen:** This was directed by certain elements of the press to the substance of the Prime Minister's speech. The Prime Minister has declared the position of Canada in respect of its renunciation of nuclear weapons. Even though at an early stage this country had the capacity to become a nuclear power, we have chosen consistently another route. It seems