

*Oral Questions*

Canada, the prior consent of the Government of Canada would have to be obtained. Is this still government policy?

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, that is still government policy. It will continue to be government policy.

**Mr. Broadbent:** Since the following questions pertain directly to the summit meeting involving the Prime Minister and the President of the United States, I hope that the Prime Minister will answer.

● (1130)

## DEPLOYMENT OF UNITED STATES AIRCRAFT

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, it is stated in the regulations of the Strategic Air Command of the United States that there will be automatic deployment of aircraft carrying nuclear weapons to Canada under certain circumstances, without consultation. Once again, Mr. Speaker, we have a contradiction in terms of what the United States is saying on important matters and what is being said by the Government of Canada. My question is for the Prime Minister. Considering we now have contradictory statements on the linkage between star wars and the modernization of the DEW line on the one hand, and a contradiction on the deployment or locating of aircraft bearing nuclear weapons in Canada between what we are saying and what the U.S. is saying, does the Prime Minister not realize that the people of Canada have a right to see, in clear-cut writing, what we are committed to, before he signs any agreement with President Reagan?

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I think my hon. friend is being unfair. I suspect that he probably knows there is an element of unfairness in his suggestion.

The question of an alleged linkage has been dealt with very categorically. I think it is generally acknowledged by reasonable observers that there is none. I know that some people have a political interest in trying to draw one, but there is no such linkage. By and large I think any objective observer knows that.

With regard to the question of sovereignty that my hon. friend talks about, there is some proof in that. We have inherited a position where our predecessors, over the years, signed international agreements without the necessary provisions for Canadian sovereignty. We are trying to correct that in a very substantial way to make sure that the independence and the integrity of the national sovereignty of Canada will be protected at all times and in all circumstances.

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

## CANADIAN SOVEREIGNTY

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** The Prime Minister has just given it away, Mr. Speaker. He has acknowledged that, in terms of an agreement entered into by a previous Liberal

Government, the United States will have a right to locate nuclear weapons in Canada without agreement by the Government of Canada. That is part of our concern.

Is the Prime Minister willing to continue to buy a pig in a poke? The U.S. Secretary of Defense, a major advisor on strategic policy to the United States Government, and a State Department official briefing Canadians, say there is a linkage between star wars and modernization of the DEW line, whatever the Canadian Government has to say. Instead of being sort of kid brother to the United States, why does the Prime Minister not establish a policy of being a good neighbour? Why does the Prime Minister not get all of this in writing so the people of Canada know what the Government of Canada is committing itself to?

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I think my hon. friend has clearly established the validity of my assertion with regard to the argument of unfairness. He promptly stood up two seconds after me and distorted something that I had just said. That is the problem with the NDP. If the Hon. Member's Party wants to join NATO they had better get their act straight.

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

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

**Mr. Waddell:** Read Sam Slick.

**Mr. Mulroney:** The next time the NDP forms a Government in Canada and it is called upon as a member of NATO, its friends will want to know where the NDP stands. Stand up and be counted.

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

**Mr. Waddell:** We are not Reagan's poodle.

**Mr. Mulroney:** In point of fact we have no lessons to learn from the NDP in terms of protecting the integrity and sovereignty of this nation. It was a Conservative Government, and a Conservative Party headed by the Right Hon. John Diefenbaker, that took on the Liberals on the question of nuclear arms in Canada—

**Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra):** He brought it in.

**Mr. Mulroney:** —and it was the Liberals, not us, who went against the interests of Canadian sovereignty. The Conservatives will always defend the sovereignty of Canada.

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

**Mr. Deans:** It was wonderful rhetoric, but what does it mean?