

*Oral Questions*

**Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, the Canadian Aviation Safety Board did undertake a very extensive investigation into this matter. It is my recollection that the conclusions that were arrived at, both by the Canadian Aviation Safety Board and the inquiry in India, were quite similar in nature.

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## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

## NICARAGUA—UNITED STATES FUNDING OF CONTRA ATTACKS

**Mr. Dan Heap (Spadina):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Will the Minister tell the House, when he meets with the U.S. Secretary of State, Mr. George Schultz, in what terms he plans to convey the repugnance that Canadians feel toward the continuing violation of the Charters of the United Nations and the Organization of American States by the U.S. continuing funding of terrorist Contra attacks from Honduras into Nicaragua?

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

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, the Government of the United States knows that Canada differs fundamentally in our assessment of the problem in Central America, and consequently in the appropriate solutions. I have made that position clear on several occasions, and the Prime Minister has made it clear to the President. I will again be making that position clear to Secretary Schultz when I meet him later today. It is our view that our most constructive contribution to the resolution of the problems in Central America is to concentrate on the constructive, practical help that Canada can give, whether by way of development assistance, or by way of support for the Contadora process, rather than succumbing to the temptation of rhetoric and condemnation.

[Translation]

## REQUEST THAT GOVERNMENT URGE HONDURAS TO HONOUR ITS COMMITMENTS

**Mr. Dan Heap (Spadina):** Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Minister on this statement.

Considering the substantial amount of Canadian assistance being given to Honduras, could the Minister perhaps, through his good offices, urge the Government of Honduras to observe its commitments under the UN Charter and the Charter of the Organization of American States and cease giving asylum to the Contras?

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Hon. Member, not only on the open attitude he has always shown with respect to political issues in Latin America but also on the competition he is giving me with respect to the use of French in this House.

I will take his question under advisement, and perhaps I could give him a more detailed answer on some other occasion.

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[English]

## NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

## INQUIRY CONCERNING POSITION OF LIBERAL PARTY

**Mr. Bob Hicks (Scarborough East):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Defence. It concerns an article in *The Ottawa Citizen* today which reported that the Leader of the Opposition refused to indicate whether he would go along with resolutions that will be presented at the Liberal Convention calling for Canada to withdraw from NATO, and also to end Cruise Missile testing in Canada. Is the Minister aware of this article? Does he feel that the Leader of the Opposition should not leave any doubt in the minds of Canadians as to where he stands?

**Mr. Broadbent:** That is not his ministerial responsibility.

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

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. It is probably appropriate for the Chair to comment that there has been a great deal of leniency exercised in recent years in this Chamber with respect to the quoting of articles and comments from other places and using them as the basis for a question. The Chair does not want to be unfair. We have just had an example of the reaction that is engendered in the Chamber when perhaps too full use is made of such quotes. However, I would ask the Hon. Minister to respond, keeping in mind that a debate in this Chamber in Question Period as to what somebody is quoted as having said in the press is not always helpful.

● (1150)

**Hon. Perrin Beatty (Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, I will do my best to fit within the confines of your suggestion. I think I can say that since World War II NATO has stood as the most important defence of peace and freedom in the world. It has had the support of both major Governments in Canada, and any action by either major Party to indicate equivocal support for NATO will be viewed very gravely indeed by our allies.

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