

Cruise missile testing - another link in the chain?

by Neal Watson

Testing the cruise missile in Canada is a "symbolic act that escalates the arms race," says federal NDP defense critic Pauline Jewett.

Jewett and *Edmonton Journal* editor Stephen Hume assumed opposing positions on the cruise missile issue for a debate Sunday on Canada's role in disarmament.

The debate, sponsored by Edmontonians for a non-nuclear future (ENNUF), featured Hume and Jewett articulating differing perspectives on Canada's world role and its commitment to NATO.

Jewett likened the nuclear "process," production, testing and deployment, to links in a chain and said, "By testing the cruise missile in Canada, we are providing an integral part of the chain."

"Thus it is totally contradictory," she said, "to say we are only testing the missile and not participating in the deployment."

Jewett asserted that Canada is

a non-nuclear state and pointed to the de-nuclearization of Canadian forces in Europe as an example. She also emphasized that despite the possession of the technology to produce nuclear weapons following WW II, Canada declined to do so.

"Decisions like these represent moral policy-making and provide evidence that Canada is capable of independent initiatives in world affairs," said Jewett.

Rejecting the notion that Canada is a non-nuclear zone, *Journal* editor Stephen Hume said that participation in NATO and NORAD (nuclear forces) makes us a nuclear zone. "We are profoundly engaged in the military affairs of Europe," he said.

"As well, the fact that U.S. nuclear front line signalling devices are stationed along the DEW line in the Canadian Arctic certainly links us to Western security interests."

Hume also said it was "fundamentally hypocritical" to assume a "moral stance" on the

testing of the cruise missile and ignore the other elements of Canada's nuclear role. Canada is indirectly involved in the nuclear arms race in the production stage as well. The Litton plant in Toronto produces the guidance system for the MX missile.

Both speakers differed sharply on the obligations Canada faced as a result of its membership in the NATO alliance.

Jewett maintained that NATO is a "voluntary" alliance and that members can decide themselves on issues like the cruise missile. For example, Jewett cited the fact that the government of Norway refused to test the cruise.

Hume, on the other hand, said that as members of NATO, it was "hypocritical in the extreme" for Canada to refuse to test the cruise. Our acceptance to test the cruise was an ethical decision, he said.

He also said that as a country that supports the deployment of missiles in other countries, we must be willing to accept some responsibility for Western security by participating ourselves.

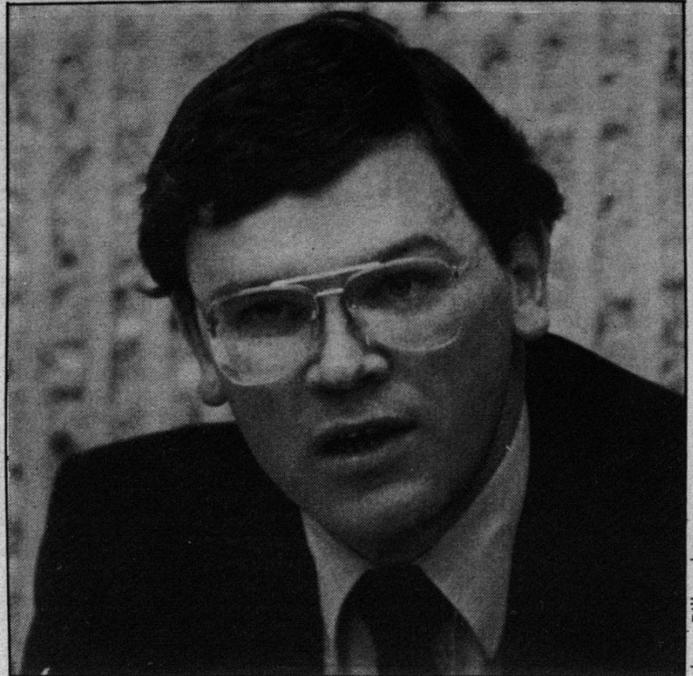


photo Bill Inglee

"Give us a job, Steve." This issue features two stories about (and one photo of) *Edmonton Journal* Editor Stephen Hume. This is a shameless attempt on the part of *Gateway* staff to gain summer employ.

Calling NATO a peace movement, and admitting the obvious paradox, Hume said that through NATO we seek "deterrence through strength."

Finally, both speakers agreed on the immense importance of the nuclear issue and on the urgent necessity of achieving real

progress in arms reduction talks. Jewett urged a nuclear freeze and renewed arms talks aimed at a mutually verifiable accord, while Hume talked of the fundamental responsibility to discuss this issue and said we must "strive for the complete abolition of nuclear weapons."

PC's surging right out of office

by Margaret Baer

The past, present and future of the Progressive Conservative party was the topic of a Political Science Undergraduate Association forum last Friday.

About 70 people came to hear Dr. Tupper, a U of A Political Science professor, give his assessment of new leader, Brian Mulroney, and the recent Gallup Poll which revealed that 62 per cent of decided voters support the Tories.

The position in which the Tories now find themselves is rather new for them, Tupper emphasized. The 'permanent opposition' party appears to be "on the verge of displacing the Liberals as the governing party in the long term," he stated.

Tupper was cautious in extending too much credit for the Tory resurgence to Mulroney. "There is a lot more going on behind the 'savior leading us to the promised land' story," Tupper stressed.

"Mulroney is reaping the benefits of hard work by his three predecessors — Diefenbaker, Stanfield and Clark," Tupper said.

In addition, there is evidence which suggests the infamous "Tory Syndrome" was being overcome before the election of Mulroney as leader. Throughout 1983, during the period of most obvious internal party conflict, polls showed Tory support growing.

In the past, the continuous leadership disputes and infighting have helped confine the PC party to the ranks of opposition. Tupper voiced the obvious complaint when he said, "How can the Tories govern Canada if they can't govern themselves?"

Tupper described the vicious circle afflicting the PC party: "It loses elections because it's divided, and it's divided because it loses elections."

Perhaps, Tupper said, the electorate is now "so desperate for a change, they're willing to tolerate the internal conflict."

But what does the 62 per cent in the most recent Gallup Poll mean? Tupper said the unusually high percentage is comprised mainly of so-called "reluctant Tories" — former Liberals who feel the last decade has seen the Liberal party swing too far to the left.

The fact Mulroney frequently tries to link the Liberals with the NDP, with statements to the effect of "a vote for Broadbent is a vote for Trudeau," shows that he is well aware of the nature of his support.

Conversely, "there is strong pressure within the party to move to the right," Tupper said. "Though Mulroney pays the expected homage to Reagan and Thatcher as required," Tupper said the PC leader realizes the need to restrain the "reactionary tendencies" and stay close to centre.

Tupper evaluated Mulroney's first months as leader by issuing him a report card. For his behavior within the party, he was given a "B".

Stamp goes to DIE

by Mark Roppel

Gordon Stamp is taking Chief Returning Officer Glenn Byer to the Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement (DIE) Board in an attempt to have the results of Friday's referendum on joining the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) overturned.

Stamps' charges range from a violation of his constitutional right to freedom of speech to illegal campaigning activities on the part of the YES committee.

Ironically Stamp signed the petition to strike a YES committee. He now says he "didn't have a very clear understanding of what CFS was." By the time Stamp realized his mistake, it was too late to form a NO committee. The deadline for applications was Oct. 14.

Stamp says he then went to Glenn Byer and told him "I want to speak in classrooms." According to Stamp, Byer then threatened him with a \$5000 law suit.

But Byer's account is somewhat different. Byer says Stamp informed him after the fact that he (Stamp) had been speaking in classrooms. Byer merely informed Stamp that according to the SU constitution, "anyone who is found guilty of tampering could be held financially responsible." The cost of the referendum was about \$5000. "I was merely letting him know," said Byer.

"He has been very fair in the treatment of his opponents," Tupper stated, pointing out how Mulroney's efforts to placate the leadership losers ("the three C's" - Clark, Crosbie and Crombie) have helped increase harmony within the party.

Tupper also gave credit the this relaxation of tension to Joe Clark, who, he said, has behaved very "statesmanlike" in disciplining his own supporters and working for the good of the party as a whole.

In Parliament, Mulroney "has not done particularly well" and was thus given only a "C". Tupper said this is not just Mulroney's inexperience, but a reflection of the weakness of Tory research.

Byer said that if Stamp had come to him, "special provisions might have been made," and a NO committee formed.

Stamp's other major complaint concerns some posters which he found in the Home Economics Building on Friday. The campaign officially ended Thursday at 9:00 PM and all campaign materials were supposed to have been removed by then.

"If you're running for election you can't have anything up with your name on it (on election day)," said Stamp. "CFS had stuff up all over the campus."

Byer says the YES committee went to the Home Economics building Thursday night to remove the posters, but the building was locked. Byer told them to remove the posters in the morning, "but unfortunately, Stamp got there first."

It is unlikely that Stamp will be successful in his bid to have the referendum results thrown out. DIE Board will probably not want to be responsible for another referendum unless they deem that the infractions influenced enough students to significantly alter the results.

Nevertheless, there will be some changes made for future referenda, says Byer. "I'm sending a letter to Council requesting changes. There has got to be something to insure that both YES and NO campaigns get started."

However, Mulroney "will have to learn more quickly than he has," Tupper warned.

Regarding public policy, Tupper's grade was "did not write". In the short term, this is a sensible political game. "He's allowing the Liberals to self-destruct" while the Tories, being non-committal, "can make no mistakes."

However, the double-edged sword is an appropriate metaphor for this deliberate lack of policy. Drawbacks include inexperience in policy-making which may prove costly if and when the PCs become the government. "They're delaying the inevitable," Tupper stated.

Once in power, one of two scenarios may occur. Can Mulroney constraining the right wing of the party?

"He might not be able to control this faction of the party that knows what it wants," Tupper suggested.

"Or, instead of a quick move

to the right, the Tories may go the other way, in which case they would become more like the Liberals," i.e. more economic nationalism/intervention.

Tupper mentioned Canada-United States relations in particular. "The Conservatives ought not to speak so loosely about closer ties with the U.S. ... it's easy to make rhetorical commitments" when not in government. Once the Tories discover reality, they might be forced to become more nationalistic and less continentalistic in the sphere of economics.

Neither of the above scenarios — a swing right or a Liberal clone — is in the long term interests of the party, said Tupper.

He volunteered his prediction of what will happen. "I see a very popular one term Tory government, then we'll wake up and come to our senses, the Liberals will have resurrected themselves, and it'll be business as usual."



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