

Interim Supply

Mr. Lambert: What has he written recently?

Mr. Mackasey: If anybody says he is not a responsible authority I am prepared to sit down and listen—

Mr. Lambert: What has he written this year.

Mr. Mackasey: This article was written in 1961.

Mr. Lambert: Yes, but what about this year? What has he written this year?

Mr. Mackasey: This article rebuts the argument that only the young ginger group favours unification, because the author of the article is a retired soldier.

I wish to quote something written by another man. If the opposition are quoting the opponents of unification I think it is only logical for us to put on record the views of those who favour the idea. Some of those expressing such an opinion are not between 28 and 32 years of age. The document I have in front of me was written by a man who is in his seventies. I would imagine one might almost expect him to be so blinded by tradition that he cannot see the benefits of unification. This document was written by Air Vice Marshal J. A. Sully.

Mr. Churchill: He retired 25 years ago.

Mr. Mackasey: I am sure this is of interest to hon. members from the west. Air Vice Marshal J. A. Sully, C.B., A.F.C., in 1934 organized and commanded 112 auxiliary squadron in Winnipeg and later was in command of an auxiliary wing in Montreal. During the war he served as commanding officer of Trenton air station and then for four years as air member for personnel at Ottawa. All recruiting, postings, personnel movements, promotions, trade training, medical services, police, chaplain services and auxiliary services came under his department. He was made a Commander of the Bath by the King and received decorations from the United States and the Polish governments. His intimate knowledge of and experience with the workings of the air force and of the defence department qualifies him to speak with conviction.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton South): Would the hon. member permit a question? Would the hon. member not agree that he had to do

[Mr. Mackasey.]

no research whatsoever to find the documents he is reading from because after a long search the minister's associate, Mr. Lee, to use the term used by a Liberal not too long ago, managed to smuggle the information contained in them in to the press gallery. The hon. member is quoting from something the minister's associate dug up. Why does the hon. member not bring himself up to date?

Mr. Mackasey: I had hoped that the hon. member would ask me a question instead of attempting to blacken the character of the Minister of National Defence.

Mr. Winkler: I do not think the hon. member is really being fair to the retired general. I have a quotation from General Foulkes—

The Chairman: Order please.

Mr. Winkler: —which says clearly that what has been read is not his view.

Mr. Mackasey: Well, I should like to make my own speech.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton South): On a question of privilege, the hon. member has indicated that I made a special effort to blacken the character of the Minister of National Defence. It takes no effort whatsoever to do that because he has done that himself.

Mr. Mackasey: The minister knows where that remark comes from, and that should end the argument. The Air Vice Marshal had this to say about the Minister of National Defence, in case anybody thinks there is an unholy alliance between them:

I have met Mr. Hellyer only once but I have a great regard for his courage. He is the first minister who had the guts to tackle the unification of our services though everyone must have known that something had to be done. I respect his patience in making all the intricate changes that are necessary in this difficult and complicated move.

Surely we can get down to earth and help him to get a good job done for Canada and for our defence services.

This is a certified original document signed by J. A. Sully, Air Vice Marshal, retired, R.C.A.F.

Mr. Churchill: Ten o'clock.

Mr. Mackasey: Somebody has pointed out it is ten o'clock. I should like to sit down and I would if I thought it would be the end of interim supply. If it is not the end I should like to continue tomorrow.