

Supply—National Defence

small country with space at a premium, such a procedure would perhaps be normal. But there's a lot of land in this country. Camp Valcartier could be extended in some other direction without having to disturb the lives of so many.

To Ottawa, the whole business becomes an impersonal operation. Leo Cadieux, associate minister of defence, even allows himself a grim little joke; he refers to the 10,000 acres of Shannon land that his government is planning to expropriate as the Shannon Corridor which the army must take.

This is not a joking matter. This is an attitude toward Canadians which cannot be justified. They have been living there for generations. Why are they to be shoved out finally?

The future is very dim for the 100 or so persons facing eviction. Many of them are too old to begin learning a trade. Others know nothing but farming. It is highly unlikely they will ever be able to buy enough land to settle down again as a community. . . . Shannon is not just a matter of dollars and cents as the letters from Ottawa suggest. It is a human problem. The federal government is trying to work its Operation Shannon Corridor by remote control Surely, somebody at Ottawa, must care.

I ask the government to look into this further. There can be no justification for an Irish dispersal of this kind. There are other portions of Valcartier which could be used for the same purpose.

● (4:20 p.m.)

Surely those who opened up this country, the pioneers who have been there for generations and whose ancestors came even before the potato famine, are entitled to be treated in a way that has not been accorded them. I ask this government and particularly the associate minister not to make grim jokes about their situation by referring to it as the "Shannon corridor". These are human beings, they are Canadians and I hope this government will have some recognition of the inhumanity—of the "inhumanity" I repeat—that is inherent in a mass evacuation from an area when there is land available on either side which is not settled. I will say no more than that, but I am going to come back to the subject again tomorrow to find out from the minister what is going to be done for these voiceless Canadians. They suffer the indignity of a community being shoved and pushed about with no regard paid except a reference that can only be interpreted as not being in keeping with the seriousness of the matter. I want to deal with certain things now because the minister saw fit last night to give us what might be called in official language a tour d'horizon. He covered everything; he went back over nuclear weapons and Bomarcs and spoke as one who

had always been blessed with that superior wisdom voiced by him last evening.

What did these former ministers know and who are these people? Mounted on his steed of knowledge, their problems are nothing to him. Let us look over the situation. There was petulance in his words and obvious contempt in his attitude. What has his record been. I am not going back to the time in 1960 when the house had the added advantage of being able to read his speech while he delivered it because he had turned it over to the press in advance, but at that time the minister did not get all that he thought he would get. He read his speech, and I remember how impressed we were with the emphasis on applause and one thing and another described in the account. It was tremendous, and the minister admits it, because never before had he ever received so much applause as he received then.

The minister went into a lot of detail last evening about the past but everything has changed now. Everything is "B.H.", before Hellyer, and "A.H.", after Hellyer. That was the story and I have read every line of his speech. I found it tremendously revealing. I would not say it was informative but it certainly was revealing as to the change of mind. Let us go back now and find out what he said with the same certainty in 1960 as he now reveals in 1966 but with a different amanuensis. This is more or less the prelude. On August 4, 1960, as recorded at page 7572 of *Hansard* the minister said:

If we believed for one moment that the Bomarcs provided any real protection, with or without nuclear warheads we would concur in their use, but we do not believe so.

You cannot get more authoritative words than those. He then said:

On the contrary, we think they are nothing but an added liability. We think they would put in jeopardy the survival of the people in the immediate area because they would in fact become one of the few priority targets in the country.

Six years ago they were targets, six years ago they were in danger areas. However, six years thereafter these missiles are in existence under the authority of this government.

I do not want to pick and choose but I want to keep the record straight in view of the fact that the minister has a mind with definite views. On September 13, 1961, the minister said, as found on page 8296 of *Hansard*:

A dozen Bomarc squadrons and a dozen squadrons of Voodoos would not begin to provide us with any protection.