

# RAP FAILURE OF GOV'T. OVER AVRO PLIGHT

From Our Ottawa Bureau

Ottawa, Feb. 21 — Political leaders in the House of Commons have attacked the Diefenbaker government for failing to come up with plans to ease the loss of jobs involved in cancellation of the Arrow interceptor program.

Liberal Leader Pearson condemned the government for having delayed its decision for so many months without at least coming up with an alternative defence contract for the A. V. Roe Co. in order to keep its workers employed.

The Conservative government had been in office for 20 months, he said, but in that time nothing had changed which had any bearing on the decision. "Certainly nothing has changed since last September which would warrant the decision being delayed."

Mr. Pearson said the announcement emphasized the necessity "of a complete and comprehensive examination" through a House committee of "the whole concept of Canadian defence policy."

Mr. Pearson reserved judgment on the decision of the government to abandon the CF-105. "We will judge this decision by our considered view of the effect it will have on our security and our economic and industrial development," he asserted.

The questions involved went far beyond the immediate problem of the Arrow and extended to Canada's whole role in North American defence, he said.

Failure of Prime Minister Diefenbaker to give any hope for alternate employment of the Avro workers was a "glaring omission," CCF Leader Argue stated.

"There was not a word about this in his announcement at a time when the country faces its greatest unemployment problems in history," he declared.

Cancellation of the Arrow program could result in a mass exodus of highly trained Canadian scientists and technicians to the U.S., Hon. Paul Hellyer warned last night. Speaking over the CBC radio network, he said the cost of training and giving experience to each of these scientists and engineers has amounted at least \$100,000.

DAILY TELEGRAM