

Must Produce Arrow Or Be Buffer: Croll

Ottawa, Feb. 4—The United States should build, maintain, man and operate missile stations in Canada if it feels they are required for North American defense, Sen. David Croll said today.

Speaking in the Throne Speech debate in the Red Chamber, the Toronto senator added that Canada must go ahead and produce the CF-105 Arrow interceptor or become a buffer state for the United States.

"Let us face it," he said. "The missile effort is beyond our means. The United States and Russia can afford it. If the Arrow is scrapped, Canadian dependency on U.S. military power will be unprecedented in Canadian history because our role then will be to operate ground radar defense systems and Bomarcas.

"We then become a buffer state. The United States is merely using us to protect her strategic air command."

Senator Croll said that Canada cannot afford to go broke protecting a sovereignty which is not in danger. Sovereignty, he suggested, is not an issue in the building of U.S. missile bases in Canada under arrangements similar to such missile bases in other NATO countries.

For that matter, he said, Canada has built airfields, apartment buildings, houses, warehouses and other installations for its air force in France and Germany.

Canada's only possible contribution to NATO and Western defense is through conventional weapons because of the cost factor, he argued.

A production order for the Arrow would not be a case of throwing good money after bad but of protecting Canada and

Canadian investment. It would mean, he claimed, an actual expenditure of \$90,000,000 a year for the next four years by which time the U.S. F-108, the chemically-fueled fighter, will be ready.

The Liberal Senator argued that \$65 of every \$100 spent on defense in Canada is recovered in corporation or personal income taxes. But \$100 spent outside Canada on defense is entirely lost to the Canadian economy.

To leave Canada without air power would be a national disaster, Senator Croll said.

He noted statements that the balance of power has shifted to the Communists, but added his belief that Russia will not use the ultimate weapon. If war breaks out while the United States is trying to close the missile gap, he added, atomic bombers will make up the main attack force.

Killing the Arrow will mean the death of the future for engineers and a narrowing of the horizons for Canadian people.

The aircraft industry in Canada needs the same kind of protection that the automotive industry received because it is an industry of precision skills, Senator Croll said.

Stressing the threatened loss of brain power, Sen. Croll said that the U.S. consulate in Toronto ran out of visa applications after Mr. Diefenbaker announced that Arrow production had been postponed.

He concluded with a claim that Canada can afford the Arrow if it is needed and useful. It is the only plane, he added, capable of doing what Canadians need to do for their own protection.

"We need it for defense and we need it as a symbol of our great achievement."

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