

# Vent Fury at Cancelling of Arrow

THE STAR cannot undertake to return unused letters

## Ruthlessly Sacrificed

Sir: I am one of the 13,800 Avro-Orenda employees Mr. Diefenbaker has ruthlessly sacrificed. I remember well his glib statements during his tremendously successful election campaign when he so staunchly assured us that whilst he was prime minister of Canada no fellow Canadian would suffer through unemployment. We all know the true defences against communism are full employment, industrial achievements and a high standard of living under a free democracy. We know, too, that the Bomarc will never be fired in anger against the Russians any more than would the Arrow be required to fire its missiles against them. We know the only thing to do is to keep the wheels of industry turning; the teams of engineers, scientists, technicians and the masses of workers constantly working, learning and developing; and that we must keep encouraging the vigorous and healthy growth of our industries and communities. These are the true defences. Mr. Diefenbaker, with one viciously deliberate stroke, has brought the wheels of the aircraft industry to a pitiful, grinding halt, seriously affected a great number of associated industries, and, with appalling apathy, hurled tens of thousands of workers on the already swollen unemployment market, creating misery and anarchy in thousands of homes and chaos in dozens of communities; and making it so much easier for the Communists to sell their cause, since it is from the ranks of the unemployed and the discontent that they most readily find new patrons. Does he indeed feel he has done his duty? Will he occupy the royal seat when the loan sharks and the shady investors step in on these working-class people whose sacred interests he's supposed to defend?

COLIN NEEDHAM  
Thistletown, Ont.

## Stroke Of Genius

Sir: May I take this opportunity to congratulate our dear uncle John on his dropping of the CF-105 Arrow? With this one stroke of genius, he has solved our problems of a national anthem and a flag of our own by making us the 50th state in the union. Now, as the governor of this fine state of Canada, he can pass off the plight of those unfortunate A. V. Roe and Orenda unemployed to the federal government of Ike.

H. D. TILBEY  
Mackenzie drive,  
Georgetown, Ont.

## The Final Blow

Sir: The news concerning the Arrow is the final blow that I feel knocks the silly idea of "Canada for Canadians" right out of our heads. I was beginning to believe the Conservative songs that they all sang last election. It led me to vote for them for the first time in my life. How wrong I was. There is one thing that seems clear now. We need no longer debate a new flag for John Diefenbaker gave us one on Friday. He gave those wonderful people at Avro who worked so hard to make Canada proud something, too. A true picture of who tells who, as far as this continent is concerned. Let us all get the false ideas we have had in our minds out, and start our adjustment to the facts at hand. We should not feel too strongly against the good old USA. After all, if someone had handed us a tempting fish on a silver platter we would probably do the same thing. To the people at Avro I say, God Bless you for a job well done.

G. D. S.  
Galt, Ont.

## People Should Vote

Sir: The question before us now is not the production or cancellation of the Arrow aircraft, but whether the Canadian people are willing to accept the alternative: The very inadequate Bomarc missile, the U.S. F104 and later F108, nuclear warheads and other armaments produced in the United States. Obviously, with these will come U.S. airmen, technicians and servicemen. This further encroachment of our sovereignty and industries will be paid for with Canadian dollars. I would suggest that the Canadian people be asked to vote now, before it is too late, whether or not they are willing to accept this. It seems ironic that Canada is offering economic aid to newly independent states but that the Canadian government apparently cannot afford to ensure the independence of her own country.

K. E. ROGERS  
Caledon East, Ont.

## An Utter Disgrace

Sir: It is an utter disgrace that the government of a civilized country should be allowed to throw out of work 13,800 people and also the thousands more which will be indirectly affected. Here in Streetsville alone, about a third of the population is directly involved by our famous prime minister's action in cancelling the Arrow, and this is only one of a dozen or more towns and villages around Toronto. What has this Tory government done for us since it took over office? It has done very little. If Canada had designed her own missiles, etc., and they have the know-how here now, a lot of this unemployment could have been avoided. Not just the Avro and Orenda employees, but other people unemployed before the cancellation of the CF-105. I agree wholeheartedly with Mr. Jim Brown of the Avro union. Mr. Diefenbaker is the best U.S. foreign secretary the U.S. ever had.

FED UP WITH TORIES  
Streetsville, Ont.

## Weak On Policy

Sir: The announcement concerning the sacking of the Avro Arrow and the American gift of nuclear weapons to Canadian armed forces has been the most vile political action that the Conservatives have made since coming into office. What a hypocritical regime it must be that sends Davie Fulton to Washington to preach Canadian emancipation and then turns around and asks our sugar-daddies of the south to supply us with nuclear arms which will supposedly give us prestige among the member nations of NATO. Don't we have compassion for a satellite nation rather than esteem? Or do the Tories feel it would be better to be the 50th state 10 years from now (at least we'd be larger than Alaska) than to be Canada strong and free? Shouldn't we also remember that the Conservatives were elected on a platform of lessening American interference in Canadian affairs? Isn't Friday's statement a breach of this policy? The root of the trouble is that we have elected a government devoid of even one strong policy-maker.

J. R. LeBERG  
College St.

## Where Are Leaders?

Sir: Let us consider a few facts. There is a definite need for an aircraft such as the Arrow. Proof? The U.S. is currently negotiating for bases in Canada for the F108, an aircraft designed to do in the future what the Arrow can do now. Let us not be fooled by the cry the Arrow is obsolete, or will be, before it's in service. Every military aircraft is obsolescent before it's off the drawing boards. The second fact. The military forces of Canada are primarily for the defence of the U.S. Crazy? Just think—why would Russia attack Canada? Therefore, the forces we are maintaining are essentially the first defence line of the U.S. Our government knows this, and so does the U.S. The Canadian is known as a man with courage, but what has happened to our leaders? What kind of strange creatures are they? They go around whining, "The USA won't buy our Arrow, so we will have to close down, but if we are good boys we can buy their arms and maybe we will be allowed to make a few itty-bittsy pieces ourselves." Surely we have at least one leader who is for Canada and who will say to the U.S.: "We will fight for freedom. We have the industry, the brains and the courage to help you, but we will not ruin our industries to favor yours. You buy our equipment, as well as us buying yours—or no deal."

F. WILSON  
Leuty Ave.

## Callous, Foolhardy

Sir: Mr. Diefenbaker's method in cancelling the Arrow program Friday was without doubt the most ruthless, callous, unpardonable, foolhardy act a prime minister ever perpetrated in Canada. His gospel-type veneer has been punctured. The true man has emerged. What happened to his Canada first program? We are heading straight toward being the 50th state of the union, economically, politically and militarily, with this kind of government. Every member of Parliament should forget party lines and stand to be counted. A trip around the world and \$9 monthly increase in the old-age pension is simply not enough.

E. R. STEPHN  
(Non-aircraft worker)  
Coney Rd.

## Job For Pearson

Sir: I sincerely hope that the Canadian people will give Mr. Pearson the job of trying to straighten out the mess the government has put us in with the cancellation of the Arrow. I hope he can do it.

W. JAMES PARSONS  
Toronto

## Glorious Opportunity

Sir: The suffering wrought by the decision of the Diefenbaker government to cast adrift the highly skilled workers of Avro, many of whom were attracted to this country by the myth of a "true north strong and free," will, no doubt, have grave repercussions throughout the whole of Southern Ontario. However, we have before us a glorious opportunity. Thousands of highly skilled workers have been released from war production and are in a position to undertake useful production. What need can best be filled by this aircraft plant? Why the production of civilian aircraft, of course! Helicopters could be built. How about it, Avro? How about it, John?

CHARLES READ  
St. George St.

## Creating Trouble

Sir: Mental health and social agencies are trying to do a good job in our communities, but when a government allows 13,800 aircraft workers to become unemployed, this, to my way of thinking, or to any intelligent person, is creating more social and economic problems. Being one who has been associated in the field of mental health (as a volunteer worker) and has worked in an Ontario hospital, I am convinced that these created conditions will cause some mental disturbances, e.g., debts, payment on homes, family responsibilities, disagreement in family life, because of the lack in the home of food, clothing for children, etc., etc.

J. PAGLIA  
Toronto