

Hellyer Claims Economy Rules Defense Policy

The economy rather than defense preparedness now is the main factor in Canada's military decisions, Paul Hellyer (L, Toronto Trinity) charged yesterday. He said this grave situation was due to the Federal Government allowing the economy to deteriorate to an alarming degree.

He told the Liberal Business Men's Club of Toronto that "the weight of the Government's decision in scrapping the Avro Arrow CF-105 was more economic than military."

It is most humiliating that Canada, which went through the Second World War without having to ask U.S. military aid, now is begging at the feet of the United States, the former Liberal associate defense minister said. The U.S. taxpayers will bear most of the cost of the Bomarc missiles to be supplied Canada, he said.

"It is a very curious paradox that the CF-105 is still considered operational by Defense Minister Peck while the CF-105, which can fly three times as fast with modern armor is considered obsolete."

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