

CAMPAIGN '84

# Tories would boost forces

by Canadian Press  
Conservative Leader Brian Mulroney has promised to spend more money on the armed forces while Prime Minister Turner says a review of government spending has turned up some money he plans to spend.

Turner was on the West Coast on Wednesday, Mulroney on the East Coast and New Democrat Leader Ed Broadbent campaigned for the Sept. 4 federal election in Saskatchewan where he talked about agriculture, listened to farmers and attacked Conservatives.

In Newcastle, N.B., Mulroney pledged to add 8,000 members to the Canadian Forces in three years and bring back distinct uniforms for the army, navy and air force. An aide was unable to say later how much the steps would cost.

The aide, who briefed reporters on condition that his name not be used, said there are 82,000 people in the armed forces. Mulroney said he wants to bring that up to 90,000.

Another aide agreed the Conservative proposal to expand the forces would parallel commitments by the Liberal government to increase defence spending next year by four per cent after inflation, compared to a three-per cent increase this year.

Mulroney promised a Conservative government would maintain its commitment and develop the level of conventional arms needed to protect Canada's territory. He said the party would begin preparing a policy paper on defence needs, including studies on procurement methods and the role of women in the armed forces.

In Vancouver, Turner campaigned in his

Quadra riding and said a review of government spending has freed \$307 million for new government priorities, particularly job-creation.

Turner said he expects more money will be available as the review continues.

Broadbent met with about 25 farm women, many of them NDP supporters, and heard complaints about rising interest rates, decreasing farm incomes, farm bankruptcies, problems in transferring farms to farm children, rural unemployment and the lack of day-care centres for farm families.

He told them the party favors a restoration of the Crown's Pass freight rate which held down grain transportation costs, changes in the Bank Act to stop foreclosures, universal day care, formation of a national land bank to facilitate the acquisition of land by young farmers and parity in pricing for different farm products.

Likening Mulroney to Bill Bennett, the Social Credit premier of British Columbia, and Grant Devine, Saskatchewan's Conservative premier, Broadbent said Mulroney had given qualified support to Bennett's tough austerity program.

"Grant Devine and Bill Bennett, with the support of Brian Mulroney, have been taking their respective provinces backward," he said.

Turner, meanwhile, said there was "some merit" in Broadbent's proposal for a minimum tax rate so high-income earners cannot use loopholes to avoid paying income tax.

But Turner would not say whether he supports Broadbent's proposed minimum 20-per cent tax rate for people earning more than \$50,000 annually.



Kristina Potapczyk

## 'Sexual' ruling lauded

TORONTO (CP) — Kristina Potapczyk is "elated and satisfied" with the human rights tribunal ruling that her former boss, Liberal MP Allister MacBain sexually harassed her and must pay her \$1,500 in compensation.

But MacBain, 58, recently nominated for re-election in the Niagara Falls, Ont., riding he has held since 1980, said the decision "is a nothing" and will have no effect on his campaign.

At a news conference in Toronto soon after the decision was released, a smiling Potapczyk, 29, flanked by her lawyer Mary Cornish, said the findings "reinforce my beliefs . . . in the fairness and equality of our country's system of justice."

The 65-page Canadian Human Rights Commission decision also ordered MacBain to refrain from further discriminatory actions.

Potapczyk, who now does media relations work at the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Culture, said she was forced to resign from MacBain's Ottawa office in April 1983 after 13 months employment because she rejected his sexual advances.

Cornish explained at the news conference: "There is conduct which some may believe not illegal but which is, in fact, illegal."

The case illustrated "more subtle, yet persistent sexual discrimination that a multitude of women across the country have had to endure without redress," the tribunal said.

MacBain refused to appear before the tribunal when the case was heard in April and May.

## DOMESTIC REFINANCES DEBT

# Oil giant given break

by LES WHITINGTON  
Southam News

TORONTO — Debt-troubled Dome Petroleum Ltd. gained crucial breathing space Wednesday, but the big oil and gas company's long struggle back to financial health is not over.

Dome chairman Howard Macdonald announced he had signed a \$5.2-billion refinancing agreement with the firm's creditors.

While seen as a major achievement, the deal with Dome's 53 lenders leaves the company facing another tough hurdle — getting investors to buy about \$300 million worth of the firm's stock.

Dome's entire plan to restructure its debt hinges on the new equity issue, which must be completed by Oct. 5.

But investment analysts say that unless there is a strong recovery on North American stockmarkets, Dome's offering could flop.

This could force the company to reopen talks on the refinancing package, which took almost two years to complete and is thought to be the largest deal of its kind.

Macdonald, glassy-eyed with fatigue from last-minute negotiations that went on all night, expressed only modest hope for the success of the stock issue.

"The market, as everyone knows, has been pretty poor," he told reporters. But he said "two months is a long time" in the stockmarket and the company will assess its chances once Canadian and United States regulatory officials approve the terms of the offer.

The agreement unveiled Wednesday was nonetheless a breakthrough for Macdonald, who took on the burden of rebuilding Dome nine months ago.

The Calgary-based oil and natural gas producer is the fifth-largest corporation in Canada, with \$8 billion in assets.

In 1982, with the firm sinking under \$7 billion in debts, the Liberal government and four major Canadian banks provided a \$1.5 billion safety net for Dome. They feared its bankruptcy would cause irreparable damage to Canada's financial system and economy.

Ever since, the company has searched for a way to avoid utilizing the \$1.5 billion capital injection because of attached strings that would put bankers and the federal government in control of the private corporation.

Getting the banks to reschedule Dome's debts was the key to the company's hope for an alternate survival plan. But the bankers, some of whom were bitter about past dealings with the company, refused to negotiate seriously with Macdonald's predecessors, former chairman Jack Gallagher and former president Bill Richards.

## Growth drug stolen

MONTREAL (CP) — Authorities said Wednesday that a theft of precious growth hormones from the Montreal Children's Hospital was more serious than originally thought.

After taking inventory, they said the number of stolen bottles now stands at 714, up from the more than 400 initially reported. And the theft may cheat 25 young patients of treatment they need to achieve their full growth potential.

Dr. Harvey Guyda, head of the hospital's endocrinology department and one of 20 physicians administering the treatment in Canada, said there is a possibility his patients will go without the hormone for an entire year, and at best they "might receive less than optimal treatment for the next year."

## Poll shows little difference

TORONTO (CP) — A Gallup poll indicates 46 per cent of respondents think there is no "really important difference" between the federal Liberals and Conservatives while 45 per cent think there is a difference.

In contrast, more than 60 per cent say they see a difference between the New Democratic Party and the Liberals, and the NDP and the Tories.

The figures are based on a survey of 1,057 adults across Canada taken in late June after the Liberal leadership convention. There was no immediate indication whether the interviews were in person or by telephone.

Gallup says a sample of this size should not err by more than four percentage points either way in 19 cases out of 20. In the 20th case, the margin of error may be even greater.

The last time Gallup asked this question, in

the summer of 1974, the public saw differences between the Liberals and Tories as more distinct. About 53 per cent indicated there was a real difference between them while 32 per cent said there was not.

At that time Pierre Trudeau was prime minister and Robert Stanfield was Conservative leader.

One of NDP Leader Ed Broadbent's campaign themes has been that Prime Minister Turner and Conservative Leader Brian Mulroney are as alike as the "Bobbsey Twins" or as "Visa and Mastercard."

The question asked by Gallup was: "Do you or do you not think there is any real important difference between: the Liberal and Conservative parties, the NDP and the Liberal parties, the Conservative and the NDP parties?"

## Stanfield praises Mulroney

HALIFAX (CP) — Robert Stanfield came out of retirement today to heap praise on Brian Mulroney during a show of unity by Atlantic Tory politicians.

Stanfield, who is revered by Nova Scotia Conservatives for his 11 years as premier beginning in 1949 and as national Conservative leader between 1967 and 1976, now lives in Ottawa and rarely makes public appearances.

The occasion was a breakfast round of speeches during a meeting of the party's Atlantic caucus that included speeches from all four Atlantic premiers endorsing Mulroney.

Stanfield said the test of Mulroney's character and judgement was his refusal to give in to pressure on the Manitoba language issue.

"Despite enormous pressure and seductive temptations, Brian Mulroney did not seek some fancy formula or subtle sophistry which might have let him try to fudge the issue. It was John Turner who tried that."

"It almost made me throw up. It's lucky I have a strong stomach."

When the chips are down, Stanfield asked his audience, which leader can Canadians really trust?

"Brian Mulroney made me proud of my leader, proud of my party and hopeful for my country."

Stanfield acknowledged some Tories may have minor disagreements with Mulroney but it is clear the entire party is behind him, including those who opposed him in the leadership campaign.

Mulroney introduced Stanfield at the breakfast, attended by about 150 party workers, officials, politicians and candidates from all four Atlantic provinces.

Mulroney repeated promises he would bring in a new degree of co-operation with the provinces.

"I am not in any way reluctant to inflict prosperity on Atlantic Canada because when that happens it's good for the nation," he said.

Mulroney did not announce any campaign promises.

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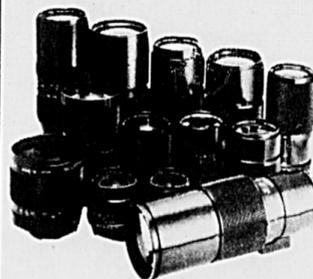
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