

Inquiries of the Ministry

[Translation]

CANADA COUNCIL

GRANT RECEIVED BY CHANDLER DAVIES

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister.

I am informed that Mr. Chandler Davies, from the University of Toronto, considered as a notorious Communist in the United States, received last year from the Canadian government a \$6,350 grant for research purposes in Russia and that this year he will receive \$15,130 for research purposes at the University of Toronto.

Could the Prime Minister tell us whether he intends to set up some kind of inquiry to find out whether or not Mr. Chandler Davies is indeed a notorious communist?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I do not know if this grant has been given by the Canada Council. If such is the case, I think that the question should be directed to the Secretary of State.

AIRPORTS

INQUIRY AS TO COST OF STE SCHOLASTIQUE SITE

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Transport.

In view of the statement made by the Quebec Minister of Municipal Affairs to the effect that choosing Ste Scholastique as the site of the new Montreal international airport will cost the province of Quebec an additional \$120 million, can the minister explain this difference for the guidance of the house?

Mr. Speaker: It seems to me that, in those terms, the question—

[English]

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): Yes—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

[Translation]

The hon. member is asking the minister to make a statement and explain the difference between two amounts. To my mind, the question should be expressed differently.

Mr. La Salle: Is it true that because of the site chosen for the airport, the project will cost \$120 million more to the province of Quebec?

[Mr. Trudeau.]

[English]

Mr. Hellyer: The answer is no, Mr. Speaker. The figures which were prepared and which were made public by the Department of Transport at the time the government decision was announced were based on the cost of providing ground transportation to service the airport, the traffic to the airport and the extra traffic generated as a result of the location of the airport. This was a consistent yardstick which was used in the evaluations of each of the sites.

The province has added the additional cost of supplementary road systems necessary or perhaps desirable to provide economic growth along the corridor bordering the river. They have also added a part of the cost of the trans-Canada highway. This of course may be a desirable expenditure but it is an expenditure which, as is apparent, is not directly related to the airport. If one were to do an evaluation on that basis he would have to add the same kind of additional costs to each of the figures in order to have a fair comparison. The answer is that the figures we gave were quite correct. These additional figures are related to consequent industrial development, which is desirable but not an essential part of the cost of the airport.

[Translation]

Hon. Théogène Ricard (Saint-Hyacinthe): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question.

According to a statement made by Hon. Robert Lussier, Minister of Municipal Affairs of the province of Quebec, the purchase of the land will cost the Canadian taxpayers \$91 million more than that of the land located south of Montreal. Will the minister tell us whether the government will reconsider its decision and begin discussions with the Quebec government?

[English]

Mr. Hellyer: I do not have too much confidence in Dr. Lussier's figures, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Ricard: They are just as good as yours, if not better.

Mr. Hellyer: I prefer to use our own which were arrived at with care and with the same kind of comparison as to the various sites.

[Translation]

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a supplementary question.

Since the government of the province of Quebec has produced an estimate concerning