

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I made no representations personally about that matter, although I understand that some members of my party did. I will try to ascertain what happened and report.

Mr. Paproski: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Why did the Prime Minister show discrimination and a lack of intestinal fortitude by not bringing up this very important matter?

Some hon. Members: Shame!

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member will appreciate that that is not a supplementary question. It is a speech.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Will the hon. member kindly resume his seat. The hon. member for Regina East.

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PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

SASKATCHEWAN ELECTION—LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVANTS TO BE CANDIDATES

Mr. John Burton (Regina East): Mr. Speaker, may I rephrase the question I asked previously of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State. Will the parliamentary secretary undertake to investigate the case of an employee of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development who has apparently not yet been granted leave of absence for which he applied two months ago in order to run as a candidate in the Saskatchewan election?

An hon. Member: Who for?

Mr. James Hugh Faulkner (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I will be pleased to look into this. Possibly the hon. member could give me the name of the individual concerned.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

FREEDOM FOR NATIONALS UNDER RUSSIAN DOMINATION—DISCUSSION UNDER PROTOCOL WITH SOVIET UNION

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Prime Minister. In view of his rather casual treatment of the question of freedom for some of the nationals under Russian domination, can he indicate to the House whether humanity will best be served by his not taking up the cause so that world opinion might pressure the Russians into allowing these people their freedom?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, since the hon. member refers to the argument of

Inquiries of the Ministry

humanity, I think that arguments based on humanity can be best made by parties who are in a good relationship with one another. That is why we have signed this protocol with the Soviet Union, in the hope that we could do that.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Korchinski: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Woolliams: The Soviets also signed an agreement with Hitler and that did not work out very well either.

Mr. Korchinski: Prior to signing the protocol, did the Prime Minister have any assurances from the Russian authorities that the question of the freedom of these people would be one of the subjects that would be discussed at a future date?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I missed the whole first half of the question because some of the Conservative members were shouting.

An hon. Member: This is just like old times.

Mr. Korchinski: Mr. Speaker, hon. members were probably shouting because the Prime Minister did not take up the cause of freedom for the Ukrainian nationals.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

ALLEGED COMPARISON BY PRIME MINISTER OF UKRAINIAN NATIONALS AND FLQ

Mr. William Skoreyko (Edmonton East): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Could the Prime Minister tell the House what justification there was for his remark comparing the Ukrainian nationals with the FLQ in Quebec?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I was not comparing the nationals of any country with the nationals in Quebec. I was indicating that the position of the Canadian government was that we were not supporting the independence of any part of any other country which is recognized under international law any more than we would want any other country to support the independence of any part of Canada.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In regard to Valentin Moroz, who has never preached the separation of the Ukraine from Russia, who has never been guilty of violence and has never preached violence—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member was recognized for the purpose of asking a question. He should do so and not make a speech.

Mr. Thompson: Mr. Speaker, my question is this. Do you equate freedom of speech with violation of the law or apprehended insurrection?