

*Oral Questions*

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[English]

**Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman opposite should not have any difficulty following my line of reasoning. We have had debate on this issue in the House. There is—

**Mr. Guilbault (Saint-Jacques):** One day.

**Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra):** A very short debate.

**Mr. Mazankowski:** The Hon. Members say one day. We offered to extend the time, to extend the hours. There was not the kind of—

**Mr. Gauthier:** One government day.

**Mr. Mazankowski:**—reciprocal agreement in kind.

**Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra):** One day on trade, one day on the Constitution. Great.

**Mr. Mazankowski:** The fact is that there has been a debate. There is a debate going on outside the House.

**Mr. Forrestall:** It has been going on since Victoria some years ago.

**Mr. Rossi:** Okay, blabbermouth.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Hon. Deputy Prime Minister.

**Mr. Mazankowski:** As I said, there has been debate. There is an ongoing debate outside the House. There will be further debate. There will probably be hearings, providing we can reach some understanding with the House Leaders. There will be ample opportunity for all Hon. Members to put forth their points of view and draw attention to any weaknesses or strengths that the Accord may have.

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**ENERGY**

NATURAL GAS EXPORTS—U.S. REGULATORY COMMISSION'S  
DECISION—ACTION BY PRIME MINISTERS

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to either the Deputy Prime Minister or the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Not long ago the Prime Minister promised in Lethbridge that the Canadian Government would do everything it could to ensure that no U.S. energy agency, and specifically the Federal Regulatory Energy Commission, would take unfair steps against Canadian gas exports. As a consequence, a letter was sent by the Prime Minister, and was simply forwarded, without endorsement by

the President, to this commission. We saw that the results were negative in terms of Canadian interests.

Since the Prime Minister is now going to raise the issue again, this time at Venice, will the Secretary of State for External Affairs or the Deputy Prime Minister tell us very precisely what kind of action he will be asking President Reagan to take?

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, this question was dealt with at some length last week, but if the Hon. Member wants to continue to pursue it, naturally I will seek to reply. There will be meetings involving the Prime Minister, the Minister of Finance, and myself, with senior American authorities in the United States. On one level we will make known to them our very great regret that the representations we have made did not have greater effect upon the quasi-judicial body.

We are determining if there are other options open to the Government of the United States that we can recommend to it. I do not think that there is a great deal of advantage in publicizing in the House of Commons what those particular recommendations might be before we make them.

**Mr. Broadbent:** The people of western Canada, and the people in the Minister's home Province of Alberta are particularly interested in the outcome, as the Minister knows.

## CANADIAN POSITION

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, since the Minister talked about the Prime Minister's intention to bring this up in Venice, presumably the Government has reviewed the appropriate legislation in the United States to see what avenue is legitimately open to the Government of Canada. If there is not some legitimate avenue open to us to protest, are we not simply misleading the people of Canada in suggesting the Prime Minister is going to talk to Mr. Reagan in Venice?

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, certainly I am not attempting to mislead the people of Canada, nor is the Prime Minister. The Leader of the Opposition—excuse me—

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Clark (Yellowhead):**—the Leader of the New Democratic Party.

**Mr. Benjamin:** You were right the first time.

**Mr. Clark (Yellowhead):** The Leader of the Opposition, of course, is hiding out in Mount Royal.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Clark (Yellowhead):** The Leader of the New Democratic Party asked me last week whether there would be a contact by telephone with the President. I indicated that instead of relying upon a telephone communication—although I know