

Petitions

Challenge '85. I am wondering if she can report to the House, or tell us now, how many jobs have been created under that program.

Some Hon. Members: Order Paper.

Mr. Blenkarn: What is the success of the program?

Hon. Flora MacDonald (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I am always very happy to talk about Challenge '85. I did give some figures on Friday when that matter was raised. I am pleased to say that the success of the program has brought in, not just government funding from the federal Government, but funding from the various provinces and, in addition, something in the vicinity of \$100 million from the private sector, all of which will go to create more jobs for young people this summer.

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INDUSTRY**MITEL CORPORATION—OPTION TO PURCHASE SHARES**

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops-Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, this must be the only Parliament in the world where the Minister responsible for regional industrial expansion stands up and says that the second largest telecommunications high-tech company in the country has been sold to foreign buyers, and gets applauded by members of his own Party. When the original agreement with Mitel was entered into, there was a clause in the agreement which said that the Government would have an opportunity to purchase shares in the Company at an appropriate time. Is that clause still in effect and, if so, was that offer made to the Canadian Government?

● (1500)

Hon. Sinclair Stevens (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I am not sure whether there was such a clause. If there was, I can tell the Hon. Member that, to the best of my knowledge, no offer or request was made to the Canadian Government with respect to the purchase of shares of Mitel. I can, of course, tell the Hon. Member that when Mitel got into severe financial difficulties, they did approach the Canadian Government for further assistance. That was still under review, and presumably, if this British Telecom deal falls through, this would still be the plight of Mitel. They do have financial difficulties at the present time.

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CLERK OF PETITIONS' REPORTS

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that the petitions presented by the Hon. Member for Comox-Powell River (Mr. Skelly) on Friday, May 10, 1985, meet the requirements of the Standing Orders as to form.

[Translation]

I have the honour to inform the House that the petition presented by the Hon. Member for Richelieu (Mr. Plamondon) does not meet the requirements of the Standing Orders as to form.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**PRESENTATION OF FOURTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

Mr. Blaine A. Thacker (Lethbridge-Foothills): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present the fourth report in both official languages of the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs dealing with Bill C-27.

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PIONEER TRUST COMPANY**TABLING OF COPIES OF LICENCES**

Mrs. Barbara McDougall (Minister of State (Finance)): Mr. Speaker, in conformity with Standing Order 46(2), I have the honour to lay on the Table copies in both official languages of the licences for Pioneer Trust issued by the Department of Insurance, pursuant to a commitment I made in this House on May 6.

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PETITIONS**STAR WARS RESEARCH**

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition, together with some 600 letters of support, signed by the McMaster University President, Mr. Alvin Lee, along with some 600 professors, graduate students and support staff. The petition strongly opposes Canadian participation in research and development for the U.S. Strategic Defence Initiative known as star wars, and these petitioners have indicated that they themselves would wish not to benefit from any research undertaken as a result of the Canadian Government participating in such a program.

TINA LYNN MALLETT

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry-Prescott-Russell): Mr. Speaker, I would like to present a petition signed by over 6,000 people from the National Capital area, asking the Government of Canada and the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Clark) to immediately intervene in the case of the abduction of Tina Lynn Mallett, and to summon the Ambassadors.