

*Oral Questions*

[Translation]

**Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of National Revenue):** Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I can not consider both cases in the same light.

When early this week, the Hon. Member asked his question about the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, he pointed out that there were differences between various orchestras in Canada. For instance, I know that at the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra and in Vancouver and Halifax, musicians are considered to be in an employee-employer relationship with the orchestra and are therefore subject to payroll deductions such as unemployment insurance premiums and Canada Pension Plan, which does not apply to the case that led to a ruling by the Department, a ruling, now suspended, with respect to the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, nor, for that matter, to the Montreal Symphony Orchestra.

In view of the different treatment of some symphony orchestras in Canada, I have decided to suspend the ruling and to review the contracts and determine how orchestras are dealt with as far as the employer-employee relationship is concerned.

If we look at the matter of deduction of expenses for other artists, including painters, engravers and so forth, the situation is quite different, since it concerns the provisions of the Income Tax Act for deduction of expenses incurred to produce a work of art, in relation to the sale of the work in question, and I feel that since these cases are not related, I cannot deal with them in the same way.

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● (1450)

[English]

**ENERGY****IMPORTATION OF VENEZUELAN OIL—SECURITY OF SEA LANES**

**Mr. Tom McMillan (Hillsborough):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. The current crisis in Grenada has raised some serious doubt about the security of major sea routes in the region, especially from the point of view of the importation of oil into Canada from the whole region and the possibility that that importation might be jeopardized. Given that the Atlantic Provinces and Quebec together import approximately 100,000 barrels of oil a day from Venezuela alone, has the Government assessed the implications for Canada of any threat to the security of these crucial Caribbean sea lanes as a result of current or potential de-stabilization in the general region of Grenada?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Madam Speaker, I do not think there are any major problems in this respect, because Canada's sources of oil supplies are very diversified, and if there were a communica-

tions problem between Venezuela and Canada, I am sure we could find alternative sources for the oil supplies needed in the Maritimes and Quebec.

[English]

**GOVERNMENT PLANS**

**Mr. Tom McMillan (Hillsborough):** Madam Speaker, notwithstanding the answer the Minister just provided to the House, in the event that the Caribbean sea routes for oil shipments from Venezuela, for example, to eastern Canada are jeopardized by the instability in the region, however remote that possibility might be—although many experts claim it is real—is the Government planning any contingency measures? If so, what are they?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Madam Speaker, I do not think we need be overly concerned about this problem. I wish to thank the Hon. Member for raising the matter, and we shall take appropriate action, but as far as I am concerned, I do not think there is a major problem, nevertheless I will raise the matter with my officials as soon as possible.

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[English]

**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS****INVASION OF GRENADA—PRIME MINISTER'S CONVERSATION WITH BRITISH PRIME MINISTER**

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. I understand that the Prime Minister just had a conversation with the Prime Minister of Great Britain. Is he now in a position to tell the House specifically about the nature of that conversation? More specifically, did he discuss with her any of the possible options that might be taken by Commonwealth countries concerning the extremely serious situation in Grenada?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Madam Speaker, at this stage I would think it advisable not to take the House into my confidence about what I said to Prime Minister Thatcher or what she said to me.

**Mr. Broadbent:** I would assume from what the Prime Minister said earlier in Question Period, however, that he will at some point take the House of Commons into his confidence.

**HIGH COMMISSIONER'S INFORMATION PRECEDING INVASION**

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Madam Speaker, I wish to return to a question that was asked earlier concerning the possibility that, as early as last Friday, the Canadian High Commissioner knew about the possibility of an invasion being one of the serious options under consideration. If this was known, was it transmitted to a member of the Cabinet or a