

what my Chief of Staff is doing there with a group of Canadian officials today.

POSSIBLE EFFECT ON CANADIAN EXPORTS

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, if the Minister for International Trade were here I would be asking him about this matter, since he is the Minister responsible for negotiations. It has already been conceded that there are some real concerns about what has emerged from Washington in recent weeks, but the Minister has decided to hold off complaining until after the deal is finished, and then take a countervailing action if necessary.

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

**Mr. Broadbent:** I want to ask the Minister of Finance—

**Mr. McDermid:** He didn't say that.

**Mr. Broadbent:** That is exactly what he said. So pay attention to what he said. Just try it.

**Mr. Nystrom:** McDermid, take a valium.

**Mr. Broadbent:** I would like to ask the Minister of Finance, since he is obviously interested in the trade deal, has his Department had a look at this proposed clause which has been agreed to, Article 1907, by both the U.S. Senate and the House? Is it the interpretation of the Finance Department that this gives additional weapons to U.S. industry that do not even exist now in terms of existing relations between Canada and the U.S., and if acted upon could single out Canadian exports for special targeting during the next five-year period? Has the Department of Finance expressed any concern about this?

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Broadbent:** Thanks!

**Mr. Mulroney:** I understand the question is to the Minister of Finance, but it is exactly the same as the one that was addressed to me.

**Mr. Broadbent:** No. I asked him if his officials were looking into it.

**Mr. Mulroney:** The officials work for the Government of Canada. As the Leader of the Government of Canada, I have already informed the Leader of the NDP that that was not the reason why Mr. Burney was dispatched.

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

**Mr. Mulroney:** The question was asked. I have provided the answer. I am happy to provide it again, and give my hon. friend those assurances.

*Oral Questions*

CONTENT OF U.S. IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION

**Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Winnipeg—Fort Garry):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Prime Minister a supplementary question on this matter.

Two weeks ago we asked the same question in the House of the Minister for International Trade, considering the fact that the United States legislation implementing the Canada-U.S. trade deal was introducing a brand new system of trade action that would be used to harass Canadian exporters by defining a subsidy, monitoring, and giving the President greater discretion and freedom of action. We thought we had some satisfaction that, finally, the Government was responding by sending Mr. Burney. I now hear the Prime Minister saying that that is not the reason why Mr. Burney is there.

I want to ask the Prime Minister this. Considering that the U.S. legislation that has been accepted by both the Congress and the Senate has stated clearly that there will be a brand new process for monitoring Canadian exports, determining subsidies and taking unilateral action, why does the Prime Minister not instruct Mr. Burney this afternoon while he is in Washington to tell the U.S. officials that that is totally unacceptable, and we will not accept that kind of legislation?

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, why would the Hon. Member say that I had indicated that that is not the reason why Mr. Burney is there?

**Mr. Axworthy:** Because you said so.

**Mr. Mulroney:** I said quite the contrary, that Mr. Burney was there both on trade related matters, as agreed, in answer to a question by the Leader for the NDP, and on matters relating to the Toronto Summit. Clearly, if there are matters that arise the Chief of Staff and trade officials will be dealing specifically and helpfully with them.

My hon. friend will not be surprised if, in terms of the congressional procedures, irritants and difficulties arise in such a complex undertaking. It is our responsibility to ensure that whatever they are they are consistent with the free trade agreement. Failing that, they would not be applicable.

Mr. Burney will of course be dealing with matters of that nature, and I so indicated.

CANADIAN SOVEREIGNTY AND SECURITY

**Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Winnipeg—Fort Garry):** Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is for the Prime Minister.

We have the clear legislative language that will set up this new system for taking trade action against Canada. We have the U.S. administration saying that the dispute settlement mechanism is unconstitutional, unless the President has the opportunity to interfere in it, thereby politicizing that dispute settlement mechanism.

Concerning those two major points, I ask the Prime Minister this. Will he give a guarantee to the House today that he will