

Oral Questions

conclusions so that he can get on television tonight, I would invite the Hon. Member to study the report in more detail.

• (1140)

MANAGEMENT QUERY

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops—Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, the fact of the matter is that \$100 million has been mismanaged. The Minister took no responsibility and there were no reports for the first six months of this fiscal year.

Mr. Broadbent: In his Department.

Mr. Riis: In his Department. Surely he has to accept responsibility for that.

It is even more serious than that. The Government's reaction is to transfer the Minister to a Department where the expenditure plan indicates the Department is responsible for \$600 million in government bank accounts. The Minister blew \$100 million in his previous position. Now he is in a position of managing \$600 million in government bank accounts. Is that the kind of management we can expect from now on?

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister, President of the Privy Council and President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member is suggesting that \$100 million has vanished. That is totally untrue. He should clearly study the report before he makes such false allegations and draws false conclusions.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Ottawa—Carleton.

An Hon. Member: You are being exposed.

Mr. Mazankowski: One of these days you will be exposed.

Mr. Riis: Great business ethics.

Mr. Mazankowski: How about some ethics over there? You do not know the meaning of the word.

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UNITED NATIONS

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Barry Turner (Ottawa—Carleton): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Mr. Riis: A \$100 million, and he gets rewarded.

Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre): You never understood, Nelson.

Mr. Speaker: I would remind—

Mr. Riis: I think we can understand this, Mike.

Mr. Murphy: Order. The Speaker is rising.

Mr. Speaker: I know all Hon. Members would want to hear the question from the Hon. Member.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa—Carleton): Mr. Speaker, it has been a difficult summer.

An historic conference on the relationship between disarmament and development began on Monday of this week at the UN, regrettably without the participation of the United States. What impact does the Minister feel that may have on the outcome of the conference? Does he also feel that Canada is optimistic that a conference consensus can be reached on these two vital issues?

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I believe that with determination on the part of all participants a constructive consensus can be achieved. I regret the absence of the U.S. I think it is always better to stay in a room and try to win an argument rather than leave it. I regret it particularly because it is tempting the Soviet Union to try to take a propaganda advantage in a field where the Soviet Union has no credentials and no claims at all.

It is worth entering into the record of the House of Commons that in 1985 western countries contributed \$4.7 billion to UN development activities, or 91.7 per cent of the total. The East bloc countries, including the Soviet Union, contributed only 1.2 per cent. The developing countries themselves contributed 7.1 per cent. In other words, the record shows that developing countries contribute something like seven times more towards UN development assistance than the entire Soviet bloc.

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AIR TRANSPORT

PROPOSED TRANSPORTATION OF PLUTONIUM THROUGH CANADIAN AIRSPACE

Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Transport my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. He has probably been briefed about the fact that in a few weeks Japan and the U.S. will sign an agreement for the shipment of plutonium from Europe to Japan. The Government of Canada has a limited time to tell the two parties that transport of plutonium through Canadian airspace is not in the cards.

Once again we ask the Government to make a commitment today to notify both Washington and Tokyo that Canada will not approve any application for the transportation of plutonium through Canadian airspace.

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, this question quite understandably gives rise to a great deal of concern in Canada. That has been