UNITED NATIONS

CANADIAN POSITION RESPECTING INTERVENTION IN GUINEA BY PORTUGUESE ARMED FORCES

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Secretary of State for External Affairs may I direct a question to the Prime Minister. In view of the report to the Security Council by a special commission of the United Nations to the effect that the recent fighting in Guinea was assisted by regular armed forces of Portugal, has the government instructed our representative at the United Nations to prepare some steps and to propose some action against Portugal for this alleged aggression?

[Translation]

Mr. André Ouellet (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, it seems that the members of the Security Council are considering at the present time the draft of a resolution and that the Canadian government representatives with the United Nations are watching the situation closely.

I would like to remind the hon, member that the Canadian government has time and again expressed its opposition to the continuance of Portuguese colonialism in Africa. The Canadian government's position is well known to Portuguese authorities.

[English]

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I know the government's position, of course. Portugal is also a member of NATO, as is Canada, and may I ask the Parliamentary Secretary whether it is the intention of the government or the minister to take the position that NATO should censure Portugal and perhaps consider its expulsion from that organization for this alleged aggression?

Mr. Diefenbaker: I hope not.

[Translation]

Mr. Ouellet: As I said earlier, Mr. Speaker, the Secretary of State for External Affairs will be in the House tomorrow probably, but certainly Wednesday, and he will answer the question.

[English]

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

ARGENTIA, NFLD.—REPORT ON EFFECTS OF CLOSING OF UNITED STATES NAVAL STATION

Mr. Walter C. Carter (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, on December 3 I asked the Minister for Regional Economic Expansion a question concerning the report of a task force appointed by him to investigate economic conditions in Argentia, Newfoundland. Can the minister say whether that report has been presented?

Inquiries of the Ministry

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): That report was submitted a few months ago, Mr. Speaker. The question is whether it has been followed up. It has for a large part. Some recommendations were accepted, in particular those relating to the renovation of the castle in Hill National Historic Park, to the rebuilding of a road at Long Harbour, and to the building of a fish factory.

The other recommendations are now under consideration and they will be put into application as soon as they are accepted.

[English]

Mr. Carter: I thank the minister for his reply but I should inform him that the big plan announced on July 6—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

REQUEST THAT PRIME MINISTER VISIT PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the right hon. Prime Minister. Having in mind the agreement of recognition between this country and the Peoples Republic of China and the potential value of peaceful trade that may result from it, would the Prime Minister consider making a trip to the Peoples Republic of China in the coming year?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I thank the hon. member for his suggestion, Mr. Speaker, and I shall consider it in due course.

NATIONAL SECURITY

STATUS OF KIDNAPPERS OF JAMES CROSS

Mr. Bruce Howard (Okanagan-Boundary): Mr. Speaker, may I ask a question related to an answer that was given on Friday by the Minister of Justice. My question is directed to the Minister without Portfolio in charge of citizenship. Has he reviewed the answer given by the Minister of Justice concerning the citizenship of the kidnappers of James Cross? Also, is it his intention to recommend to the government that the citizenship of these criminals ought to be cancelled?

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, the matter has been considered. It would require a special Act of Parliament. It seems unlikely, however, that these persons would have any opportunity of enjoying any of the privileges of Canadian citizenship without subjecting themselves to the discipline of Canadian law. I am not sure, in the circumstances, whether these people warrant the devotion of any more time and attention by this House.