

*Oral Questions*

change in the government's plans in connection with this statement?

**Hon. Francis Fox (Solicitor General):** Mr. Speaker, as I have already indicated to the House, I do not believe I said any specific date. My answer was that I would try to make the statement as soon as possible after sentence was handed down by the judge and therefore the judicial process had come to an end. I think in fairness to all members of the House I should say it is my intention to make a statement the first day the House opens following handing down of the sentence by the judge in the affair at Montreal.

**Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Since there is some anticipation in respect to that statement, would the Solicitor General tell the House whether or not he has any information from the Crown attorney in the area that there will be delay in the sentencing which is to take place. If so, what, if any, preliminary steps have to be taken between tomorrow and the sentencing? Can the Solicitor General assure the House that what we have taken as an undertaking that a statement will be made in the House of Commons means that a statement will in fact be made prior to the adjournment of the House?

**Mr. Fox:** Mr. Speaker, the undertaking stands, but I will be making the statement as soon as sentence has been handed down by the trial court judge. I have no information as to when the sentence will be handed down by the trial court judge. My understanding, as I have indicated to the House, is that the Crown attorney and the attorneys for the defence will be making their pleas as to sentence tomorrow in court in Montreal. I understand also that it is normal practice—and perhaps some members of the opposition have more experience than I in these matters—sometimes for there to be some delay between the hearing of the pleas by the attorneys and the handing down of the sentence.

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**MULTICULTURALISM****INQUIRY AS TO CO-ORDINATION OF DEPARTMENTS IN IMPLEMENTATION OF OBJECTIVES**

**Mr. Gus Mitges (Grey-Simcoe):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State (Multiculturalism). In view of the fact that the government has gone to great pains to reassert that multiculturalism is a permanent government policy, would the minister inform the House whether complete co-ordination exists between his department and other government departments so that all multicultural objectives and goals become implemented as expeditiously as possible?

● (1450)

**Hon. Joseph-Phillippe Guay (Minister of State (Multiculturalism)):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the hon. member for Grey-Simcoe because he seems to be the only one who is really interested in multiculturalism.

[Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton).]

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

**Mr. Paproski:** On the opposite side.

**Mr. Guay (St. Boniface):** In spite of all the noise which you hear, I would like to know the stand his leader will take pertaining to multiculturalism.

**Mr. Alexander:** Just answer the question, Joe.

**Mr. Clark:** We will start with the minister.

**Mr. Guay (St. Boniface):** Mr. Speaker, in answer to the question, the extent of co-ordination depends on the degree of the involvement in multiculturalism by individual departments and agencies.

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

**Mr. Guay (St. Boniface):** The hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre, who read the speech of another member the other day, should not have anything to say about my answer today.

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

**Mr. Clark:** Order.

**Mr. Guay (St. Boniface):** The multicultural activities of federal cultural agencies, which received a special mandate, are co-ordinated by an Inter-Agency Co-ordinating Committee chaired by the Assistant Under-Secretary of State.

**Mr. Hees:** Read it like it is written, Joe.

**Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton):** Smile, Stanley.

**Mr. Guay (St. Boniface):** I would like to name the agencies which are represented on the committee. They are: National Library, Public Archives, National Museum of Man, National Film Board, CBC, CRTC, and the Multiculturalism Directorate.

**Mr. Hnatyshyn:** Bring back Haidasz!

**Mr. Guay (St. Boniface):** As far as other departments are concerned, co-ordination is assured by continuous liaison in the senior staff of the Department of the Secretary of State and my own department.

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

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Paproski:** One supplementary, Mr. Speaker—

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!