

## OVERPAYMENT TO CANADIAN COMPANY

Question No. 2,009—**Mr. Saltsman:**

1. What is the name of the Canadian company, referred to in the 1968 Auditor General's Report, page 61, paragraph 109, which received an overpayment from the Canadian Government of \$86,000?

2. Is the Government of Canada presently attempting to obtain this overpayment from the above company?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** 1. The project referred to in the Auditor General's Report, page 61, paragraph 109, is still current and the interests of more than one allied country are involved. It is not considered in the public interest to disclose the name of the company at this time.

2. The Auditor General and the Justice Department differ as to whether an overpayment situation exists. The Justice Department is of the opinion, relating to this specific agreement, that no distribution of the proceeds of sale can be effected until the sale is concluded. When the sale is concluded the government will receive all monies due under the contract.

## TREATY RIGHTS RESEARCH BY INDIANS

Question No. 2,225—**Mr. Yewchuk:**

1. Is the Minister committed to granting the Indian people the resources they need to undertake their own research into treaty rights and related matters as was requested by Indians at the April 28-May 2 National Indian Conference in Ottawa?

2. Did the Minister take the opportunity on the weekend of May 2, 1969 for a preliminary meeting with the Committee of six designated by the National Indian Conference to deal with him on this matter?

3. When will the first formal meeting of that group occur, and when will the Minister announce a firm decision regarding financial assistance to Indian research?

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** 1. At a meeting with the Indians during the National Indian Consultation Conference April 28-May 2 it was stated, as in December 1968, that the Canadian government was ready to help them form into an association and take advantage of the most modern means of operation; these statements are still valid today.

2. An opportunity has not yet arisen to meet officially with the members of the Committee of six designated by the national Indian delegation.

3. The Committee has not yet informed the department when their first formal meeting will occur. An announcement will be

## Questions

made in the near future as to the form of financial assistance which will be made available for Indian research.

## CRIME VICTIMS COMPENSATORY BOARD

Question No. 2,245—**Mr. Fortin:**

1. Is the government considering, has it considered or will it consider, establishing a crime victims compensation board?

2. Will these studies be tabled in the House?

**Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice):** 1 and 2. On May 15 and again on May 21, I stated, as recorded in *Hansard*, that I shall defer this matter to the commissioners of legislation uniformity and to the representatives of the provinces' Attorneys General.

## CREATION OF POST OF OMBUDSMAN

Question No. 2,249—**Mr. Fortin:**

1. Is the government considering the advisability of presenting a Bill which would create the post of ombudsman to ensure better protection for citizens?

2. At what stage are the studies on the protection of the citizen vis-à-vis the government and bureaucracy?

3. Who is carrying out these studies and will they be tabled in Parliament?

**Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice):**

1. The government has not announced any policy with regard to the advisability of creating an office of ombudsman.

2. The protection of the citizen vis-à-vis the government and bureaucracy is a matter which is under continuous study by the government.

3. Such study is done in particular in relation to the formulation of policies by the various departments concerned and the preparation of legislation by the Department of Justice.

## NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE PRE-OPENING ENTERTAINMENT

Question No. 2,369—**Mr. Coates:**

1. What was the total cost of the pre-opening entertainment provided to guests of the directorate of the National Arts Centre?

2. How many groups were invited to attend pre-opening ceremonies?

3. What was the estimated total number of individuals involved and what was the reason for the pre-opening entertainment?

4. What are the names of the individuals given the responsibility for selecting and entertaining the individuals and groups invited?

**Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State):** I am informed by the National Arts Centre as follows: 1. \$4,036.54.