

*Oral Questions**[English]*

Mr. Wenman: I wish that it was just a case rather than many cases.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Wenman: Those cases have been identified, and they will be identified to the Minister. He spoke of draconian measures in some cases as if draconian measures were in fact acceptable.

• (1430)

TAXPAYERS' MEETING AT ALDERGROVE, B.C.

Mr. Robert Wenman (Fraser Valley West): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. Last Thursday night over 300 angry Canadians attended a tax protest meeting in Aldergrove, British Columbia, along with officials from Revenue Canada. It has been reported that while the meeting was in progress someone was in a parking lot with a flashlight and a notebook taking down the licence plate numbers of those attending the meeting. Can the Minister assure the House that the information being collected was not information being collected by or for Revenue Canada and that those attending such a democratic meeting will not become victims of further reassessment or retribution because of their attendance at the public meeting?

[Translation]

Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, the conclusions the Hon. Member would like to draw are too ridiculous to even be considered. I would appreciate it however, if the Hon. Member would give all the facts. The meeting was attended by departmental officials who informed the people what their responsibilities, duties and privileges were under the Income Tax Act. Our approach was not to look around outside and try to find culprits, but to take advantage of this opportunity to inform Canadian taxpayers of their rights and responsibilities, in order to urge them to comply with the Income Tax Act, all of which has a very positive and educational value.

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[English]

ATOMIC ENERGY OF CANADA LIMITED

TRANSFER OF CANDU TECHNOLOGY TO SOUTH KOREA

Miss Pat Carney (Vancouver Centre): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, my question is directed to the Minister of International Trade. *The Globe and Mail* quotes from a memorandum between Atomic Energy of Canada Limited and a South Korean company, which indicates that Canada is prepared to transfer its complete Candu 600 megawatt reactor technology to South Korea in order to build jointly a reactor in Turkey. Canadian taxpayers have spent billions of dollars developing the Candu reactor, and it is considered to be one of Canada's most

outstanding engineering achievements. Is it the Government's policy to give away our high technology in order possibly to nail down a short-term sale at the expense of our entire long-term Candu market?

Hon. Gerald Regan (Minister for International Trade): Mr. Speaker, I thank the Hon. Member for a question that certainly is one that could well interest her. I want to assure her that it is the policy of the Government, and it is the policy of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, to negotiate the transfer of technology in circumstances that are advantageous to Canada, and where it is not advantageous to Canada it is not done.

In relation to Korea, I think the Hon. Member might well want to address detailed questions of what technology has been included in the transfer, or in any proposed future transfers, for additional sales of Candus to or through Korea, to the Minister of Energy when he is present. In the meantime I would assure her that transfers of technology in the case of the Candu, as in other cases, are carried on with the best judgment of what is in the best sales interest of Canada and Canadian workers.

Miss Carney: In the Government's best judgment, the best deal for Canadians so far is to swap Candu reactors for Romanian strawberries.

TERMS OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Miss Pat Carney (Vancouver Centre): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is also addressed to the Minister for International Trade. In the memorandum of understanding quoted in the press, there is no mention whatsoever of any sale of a Candu reactor to South Korea. Are the Minister and the Government really planning to give away our technology without even a firm sale to Korea? Is he exporting Canadian jobs as well as high technology?

Hon. Gerald Regan (Minister for International Trade): Mr. Speaker, I am not sure that I can add anything to the answer I gave to the Hon. Member, and I am not sure that she listened carefully to what I said.

Mr. Crosbie: If she did, she would not understand it—who could? It is complete bafflegab.

Mr. Regan: That is, quite clearly, that there is a judgment made by Atomic Energy of Canada Limited and by the Government in all technology transfers as to the advantage in relation to present and future sales of such transfers. I think the Hon. Member will be aware that, with reference to Candu technology, Canada not only constantly has to improve and modernize the technology but that we have the advantage of the experience that makes us, in any sales that can be facilitated to a third country, a very valuable partner.

While we are all satisfied on the basis of performance, and statistics on performance of existing reactors around the world, that the Candu is the best one there is, I believe we have to continue to find ways in which we can maximize the numbers