

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** I do not consider that an affront, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Jelinek:** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Prime Minister. Assuming that it is the policy of the Department of External Affairs to grant neither diplomatic nor courtesy visas to known Soviet spies or other spies, which in fact they have done in the past, and assuming that it is the policy of that office to regard information from the RCMP on matters relating to national security seriously, would the Prime Minister assure the House, therefore, for the sake of national security, notwithstanding the security for the Olympic games—Mr. Gresko is Soviet attaché to the games in Montreal—that appropriate steps will be taken to declare Alexander Gresko persona non grata in Canada and to refuse him any further entry to this country? If not, I should like some explanation why not?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, I can assure the hon. member that the Department of External Affairs and the RCMP are aware, and were aware, of the identity of Mr. Gresko. Any steps that they take will be made known to the House.

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#### ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

##### POSSIBLE ACCORD WITH ALBERTA CONCERNING ENVIRONMENTAL JURISDICTION OVER TAR SANDS

**Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of the Environment. In view of the desire frequently expressed by representatives of the government of Alberta to develop the Alberta tar sands as soon as possible, and in view of the statement of the Minister of the Environment of that province on November 4 in the Alberta house in which he said that "the accord"—he meant the accord between themselves and the federal government—"if and when we reach one, will recognize that the province will be in the forefront in dealing with the companies", and that "we are very close to reaching an accord", would the minister advise this House if negotiations are still taking place, and has an accord been reached with the government of the province of Alberta concerning environmental jurisdiction over the tar sands?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jeanne Sauvé (Minister of the Environment):** No, Mr. Speaker. The question of agreements on responsibilities in environmental matters is now under study. A draft of the agreement which could be signed between the different provinces and the federal government is now before the Alberta Minister of Environment and Resources. He sent me back some corrections, some amendments he would like to make to this agreement and we are discussing this.

#### Oral Questions

[English]

##### ALLEGED DESTRUCTION OF BIRDS IN TAR SANDS—POSSIBILITY OF CHARGES BEING LAID

**Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster):** Mr. Speaker, may I ask a supplementary question. In view of the fact that there have been rumours that 1,000 to 2,000 birds have been destroyed in the tar sands—and there is certainly confirmation of some bird kill—is the minister now ready to advise the House whether her department has determined if charges should be laid with respect to the death of any of those birds in the tar sands, or whether an investigation has been completed?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jeanne Sauvé (Minister of the Environment):** Mr. Speaker, about the report on bird killings in the tar sands, I must say there is no basis to it. There has been no such thing as the destruction of thousands of birds in ponds used for settling some residue from tar sands development plants.

[English]

**Mr. Leggatt:** A final supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister assure the House that she will rely on information received from her own department and from the government of Alberta, rather than information provided by the companies, which has largely been the case to date?

[Translation]

**Mrs. Sauvé:** I think the information to which the hon. member alluded come from the press and those I gave him come from my own services.

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#### HISTORIC SITES

##### MOTHER HOUSE OF GREY NUNS, MONTREAL—POSSIBLE HISTORIC SITE

**Mr. Serge Joyal (Maisonneuve-Rosemont):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

How does he propose to implement the recommendation of Heritage Canada, made public on December 9, that the federal government should recognize the mother house of the Grey Nuns of Montreal as a national historic site, buy it, endeavour to renovate it and use this architectural complex for public purposes?

[English]

**Hon. Judd Buchanan (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, I am aware of this representation made by Heritage Canada and it is my intention to draw it to the attention of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board, which must first make a determination as to its historical significance.