that unemployment insurance benefits for fishermen would be on the table if we entered free trade negotiations?

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I am the Minister responsible for monitoring Canada AM.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Axworthy: You finally found a job for your talents, Joe.

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): Is that before you go to bed or after you get up?

Mr. Axworthy: You are under-qualified.

Mr. Deans: So that's what you do.

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): Mr. Deans, that's what I do. What do you do?

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Deans: We try to get answers to questions.

STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO CANADIAN NEGOTIATOR

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, since the Minister has such heavy responsibilities, he will also be aware that the businessmen stated the reason they believe all these items, including UIC benefits for fishermen, would be on the table, is that that is what they were told by Simon Reisman. Is he aware of that?

Mr. Crosbie: That's called hearsay.

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, would you please identify for me the question posed by the questioner so that my answer might be fully communicated on Canada AM tomorrow morning?

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

PROSECUTION OF JOURNALIST FOR AIRPORT ACTIVITIES

Hon. Bob Kaplan (York Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister and it arises out of the prosecution of journalist Bertrand de la Grange for mischief in connection with a service he performed in showing the inadequacy of the security system at our airports. Does the Prime Minister consider it proper for the Minister of Justice, outside this House and before the trial of Mr. de la Grange, to declare him to be guilty of a criminal act?

Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman knew when he asked his question yesterday, or if he did not know he should have known, that this proscution has nothing at all to do with the Attorney General of Canada. It is a municipal

Oral Questions

prosecution undertaken by the municipality in that area. Only the Attorney General of Quebec can intervene in the matter, if he so wishes.

Mr. Guilbault (Saint-Jacques): You'll call him guilty then.

Mr. Crosbie: I haven't found anybody guilty or not guilty. I find the hon. gentleman guilty of lamentable ignorance in bringing the matter up as he did.

Mr. Kaplan: Mr. Speaker, I am not asking questions about the actual prosecution. As usual, the Minister is wrong. The Canadian Security Intelligence Service Act gives him the authority and responsibility for cases like this, if he wants to take it.

MINISTERIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Hon. Bob Kaplan (York Centre): Does the Prime Minister not feel he has any responsibility at all for the behaviour of his Ministers and for statements that they make which, in this case, can lead to a serious deterioration of the integrity of our system of justice?

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, in the case at hand I find in favour of the Minister of Justice.

Mr. Waddell: You're not on the bench yet, Brian.

Mr. Crosbie: That's a relief.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Deans: It's also a surprise.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

TRADE

LUMBER EXPORTS TO UNITED STATES

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops—Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Right Hon. Prime Minister. In his response to my colleague, the Member for Skeena, he indicated that the Government has a very clear position regarding softwood lumber exports to the United States to protect the Canadian forest industry. Would the Prime Minister simply explain what position the Canadian Government holds regarding softwood lumber?

Hon. James Kelleher (Minister for International Trade): Mr. Speaker, the position of the Government of Canada is very clear on this matter. A free market presently exists between our countries. We wish to see that maintained. We do not, in any way, accept the contention of the Americans that we are in any way subsidizing our industry, either through stumpage fees or other methods.