

SURVEILLANCE OF PARTI QUÉBÉCOIS—POSSIBILITY OF INQUIRY  
ABOUT SURVEILLANCE OF OTHER POLITICAL PARTIES

**Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby):** Let me ask the Prime Minister when he found out in either 1974 or 1975, and his memory is pretty vague on that point too, that the RCMP was keeping surveillance on a systematic basis of the Parti Québécois, and he informed the House on November 2 that he put an end, either in 1974 or 1975, to this practice, did he at that time ask whether the RCMP was keeping surveillance of the activities of any other political party in Canada and, if not, why not?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, it arose, as I reminded the House, when there was a report to me and to the cabinet committee on security and intelligence to the effect that in order to find out more about a violent end of separatism or a violent branch of separatists the RCMP was investigating the party as such, and they were asking us as the government to give them directives as to whether this kind of surveillance should be followed or not, and we indicated that it should not be pursued and that there should not be any surveillance of any freely elected party in Canada.

**An hon. Member:** Blame the RCMP.

**Mr. Broadbent:** Mr. Speaker, maybe this time the Prime Minister will try to answer the question. I asked him, when he found out, either in 1974 or 1975, that such a surveillance was taking place by the RCMP, and he expressed deep shock at that revelation at the time, did he or did he not ask the RCMP whether it was monitoring the other activities of democratically elected governments, whether of British Columbia, Manitoba or anywhere else in the country?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Quite frankly I did not, Mr. Speaker. I did not ask them if they were investigating my party or the hon. member's party.

**An hon. Member:** You didn't want to know.

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● (1427)

[Translation]

RESOURCES

INQUIRY WHETHER QUEBEC REQUESTED AID FOR  
DEVELOPMENT OF ASBESTOS MINES

**Mr. Armand Caouette (Villeneuve):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Could he tell the House whether his Quebec counterpart asked him financial aid to develop the asbestos mines now owned by the province?

[English]

**Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of any such request.

Oral Questions

[Translation]

**Mr. Caouette (Villeneuve):** Mr. Speaker, considering that the minister is touring his province to announce the development of asbestos mines, could the minister tell the House whether he would be interested in meeting his Quebec counterpart to discuss financial aid from the federal government. It would reduce the unemployment rate in Quebec, which is a very great source of concern to the House of Commons.

[English]

**Mr. Gillespie:** Mr. Speaker, I have never been able to understand how the nationalization of the asbestos mines of Quebec would increase the employment in that province.

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ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

HARE REPORT ON DISPOSAL OF NUCLEAR WASTE—  
CONCLUSIONS CONTRARY TO OTHER REPORTS

**Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of State for the Environment. I was wondering whether the minister has seen the Hare report on the disposal of nuclear waste? Is he aware that its principal conclusion to the effect that there is no technological barrier to the disposal of long-lived radioactive waste is in complete contradiction with reports that have been made public recently, such as that by the former chief science adviser to the cabinet and that by the Flowers commission report in the United Kingdom, which state that nuclear development for the moment should go slow? Is he aware that it is also at variance with the United States president's advisory council on environmental quality?

**Hon. Len Marchand (Minister of State (Environment)):** Mr. Speaker, I am not sure how I can answer all of the questions raised by the hon. member during question period. I have not yet had an opportunity to study the report in detail. I have glanced over it, but within the next few days I will look at it in more detail. Indeed, the Department of the Environment is looking very closely, along with the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources and AECL, into the whole question of the disposal of radioactive waste. It is a question that is preoccupying us very much.

POSSIBILITY OF REFERENCE OF HARE REPORT TO COMMITTEE

**Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich):** Mr. Speaker, when the minister examines this report, which is likely to be tabled later this day, I wonder whether he would examine the possibility of having it referred to a special committee of this House so that there might be public hearings, as there were on some of the other reports I have mentioned.

**Hon. Len Marchand (Minister of State (Environment)):** Mr. Speaker, I would be happy to take that question up with my colleague, the hon. Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, to see what can be done.