

assumptions and attributes them to the budget and the National Energy Program. We do not accept this total disagreement shown by the hon. member with the objectives of the National Energy Program and with the methods taken to implement them, which in my opinion are widely supported by the people of Canada, if not by his party.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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GARRISON DIVERSION

REQUEST PRIME MINISTER DISCUSS PROJECT WITH PRESIDENT OF UNITED STATES

Mr. Dan McKenzie (Winnipeg-Assiniboine): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister; it concerns the Garrison diversion project. As the Reagan administration is now in place, would the Prime Minister assure the House that the diversion project will be on the agenda for discussion in his first meeting with President Reagan and once again express our concerns over the diversion, especially if the entire project is completed?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker, I have raised this matter in previous meetings with the then president of the United States, as I am sure the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition did in his meetings. I will continue to do so.

REPORTED STATEMENT OF GOVERNOR OF NORTH DAKOTA

Mr. Dan McKenzie (Winnipeg-Assiniboine): Madam Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. The governor of North Dakota has made some very startling statements. He is reported as saying: "What we've heard from Canada has been unofficial." Also he said that no evidence has been presented that there will be any harmful effects to Manitoban waters. Will the minister assure us that he will contact the governor of North Dakota and at least give him a copy of the IJC report? Perhaps the minister could telephone the governor to explain these facts of life, because he is calling for the completion of the entire project.

Hon. Mark MacGuigan (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Madam Speaker, certainly I will see to it that the governor of North Dakota receives a copy of the IJC report. I suspect he is already very familiar with it and chooses to interpret it in his own way, but I know he and others in that region are very concerned because the government of the United States has been co-operating with us in not using funds Congress voted in any way which would imperil our waters. So we have been receiving the co-operation of the United States administration. It is that very fact which is distressing some of the local politicians in that area of the United States.

Oral Questions

DISARMAMENT

PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS—SAUDI ARABIAN GRANT TO PAKISTAN

Mr. Terry Sargeant (Selkirk-Interlake): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Right Hon. Prime Minister. On Monday it was reported that the government of Saudi Arabia would give \$800 million to the government of Pakistan to finance that government's development of a nuclear weapon. All Canadians view with alarm the growing proliferation of such weapons throughout the Third World. I would like to ask the Prime Minister if, during the course of his visit to Saudi Arabia in November, he tried to impress upon the Saudi government the danger to world peace of such proliferation. Further, would he now promise to use all the diplomatic powers of the Canadian government to persuade the Saudis of the inadvisability of this particular grant to Pakistan?

● (1440)

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker, the hon. member refers to a news report of yesterday. I do not know if it is accurate, but if it was made yesterday, it certainly could not have been brought to my attention before going to Saudi Arabia. I undertake, to keep the hon. gentleman's representations in mind when I return to Saudi Arabia.

Mr. Sargeant: Madam Speaker, I realize the report just came out, but I anticipated that it might have been a matter of discussion since there had been previous talk about an Islamic bomb.

In the Speech from the Throne last April the government promised to "continue its strategy to suffocate the deadly growth in the nuclear arsenals of the world." Since April there has been very little noticeable suffocation, aside from the appointment of the ambassador for disarmament. I would like to ask the Prime Minister if he can tell us whether or not his government has a real battle plan to bring about this suffocation. If so, will he bring it before this House as soon as possible so we can debate it?

Mr. Trudeau: Madam Speaker, apart from appointing an ambassador for disarmament, who has been working along the lines which were suggested by me in the speech on disarmament to the United Nations, we have also appointed ex-Ambassador Ford as a member of the Palme commission on disarmament.

As for the hon. gentleman's suggestion that we debate these questions, our party would be happy to do so. I think hon. members of this House know that between now and, perhaps, the next six weeks, we have a very busy agenda doing precisely the things which the hon. Leader of the New Democratic Party has suggested we do; that is to say, to pay more attention to the economy at home. When we have passed the measures of the Minister of Finance and have begun to deal with the constitution, then we on this side of the House would be happy to find a day to debate international affairs, particularly disarmament. Of course, if between now and then the opposition find it to be one of their priorities and wish to