HONOURING OF AGREEMENT

Mr. John Parry (Kenora—Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, since that argument indicates the Government's strategy regarding negotiations with the aboriginal people, namely, as soon as they have devolved to get away from them as far and as fast as possible, is the Government committed in principle to honouring the Cree-Naskapi Agreement?

Hon. Bill McKnight (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, as the Hon. Member is aware, he again puts myself and the Government in a very difficult position. I cannot comment when there is an intent to take the Government of Canada to court. Once again I refer him to the actions taken by this Government over two and a half years regarding assistance to aboriginal people, and I refer him to the statement tabled with the Cree-Naskapi Commission report.

Mr. Speaker: The Member for York Centre, one question, please.

WAR CRIMINALS

STUDY OF ENTRY TO CANADA—REQUEST FOR PUBLICATION

Hon. Bob Kaplan (York Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice. The Deschênes Commission itself commissioned a study on how Nazi war criminals got into Canada in the first place. Mr. Justice Deschênes recommended that report be given the widest possible circulation, yet the Government has not made it public. Does the Minister intend to make it public? If so, when?

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, the report referred to is one of the research documents turned over by Mr. Justice Deschênes to the Government. As a matter of fact the Department of Justice is not yet in possession of these documents. I am informed that the Privy Council Office has the documents and is reviewing them in accordance with the Access to Information Act and the Privacy Act. This is an open Government—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hnatyshyn: —I may add, unlike the previous Government. We are quite interested in this very sensitive issue and I understand the purpose of the Hon. Member in asking the question. We are very interested in making sure there is disclosure as far as legally possible. This will be reviewed in that context and I think the Hon. Member yesterday, according to press reports, acknowledged that there are areas which might have to be removed from the report.

Mr. Speaker: This will be the last question. The Hon. Member for London East.

Oral Ouestions

HEALTH

AIDS DISEASE—BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS—TESTS RECOMMENDED IN UNITED STATES

Mr. Jim Jepson (London East): Mr. Speaker, my question today is directed to the Minister of Health. Yesterday we learned that the U.S. is recommending voluntary blood tests for any individual who had blood transfusions between the years 1978 to 1985, particularly for those who are "sexually active". Can the Minister tell this House whether or not the Government is contemplating a similar recommendation?

Hon. Jake Epp (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, in looking at the press reports of the U.S. action I would say that almost all those who had blood transfusions prior to the start of blood products being heat tested, or examined for the AIDS virus, would have had a blood test. There might be some who were not covered by that medical action. The National Advisory Committee on AIDS is meeting in Ottawa, I believe right at this time. These points are on its agenda. If it makes a recommendation from the point of view of health and professionalism, I will obviously consider it. However, I would think that in most cases Canadians would have been covered because of medical procedures undertaken for recipients of blood or blood products.

WORDING OF MEMBER'S QUESTION

Mr. Speaker: I would like to bring to the attention of Hon. Members a matter which occupied the Chair about a week ago as a consequence of a question asked by the Hon. Member for Windsor-Walkerville (Mr. McCurdy). Because of the words used in that question, the Chair felt it necessary to intervene and caution all Hon. Members to be very careful in the words they used in case they might be imputing racist motives to another Hon. Member. In that particular case the Hon. Member whose statement was referred to by the Hon. Member for Windsor-Walkerville was the Hon. Member for Willowdale (Mr. Oostrom). Since that intervention the Hon. Member for Windsor-Walkerville has very courteously come to see the Chair and we have had a discussion. I should also say that the Chair has had the opportunity to have a discussion with the Hon. Member for Willowdale. I want Hon. Members to accept that I am completely satisfied that in the question posed by the Hon. Member for Windsor-Walkerville, which I am quick to point out was rephrased at the request of the Chair, there was no intention whatsoever to impute racial motives to the Hon. Member for Willowdale or any other Hon. Member. I want that on the record. As well, I thank the Hon. Member for Windsor-Walkerville and the Hon. Member for Willowdale for their conduct and co-operation throughout this matter.

I should advise the House that there are two rulings which I must now deliver. The first concerns a question of privilege raised by the Hon. Member for Charlevoix (Mr. Hamelin).