

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

[Translation]

**Mr. Chrétien:** Mr. Speaker, when I met with the Indians last week, I told them, as I did last December, that the Canadian government was ready to help them to form into an association and take advantage of the most modern means of operation. The statements I made last December and last week are still valid today.

[English]

## BRITISH COLUMBIA—REMOVAL OF REGIONAL DIRECTOR

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** I have one further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Has the minister received a request from representatives of the Indians of British Columbia asking that Mr. J. V. Boys be removed immediately from his office as regional director of Indian Affairs for British Columbia? If such a request has been received will the minister tell us what reply he contemplates giving on behalf of the government?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of such a request. I will take it into consideration when it reaches me and I will report to the people who submitted it.

[English]

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

## ADDITIONAL TELEPHONE SERVICE TO HANDLE PASSPORT INQUIRIES—AMENDMENT OF REGULATIONS

**Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs? In so doing may I first of all pay my compliments to the fantastic work and co-operation of those in the passport office; they are doing a remarkable job. However, may I ask the acting Secretary of State for External Affairs if there could not possibly be some relief from the increasing pressure on members of the House of Commons and their secretaries in handling emergency problems. If possible, I ask that there be an additional two telephone lines installed, with a specific staff to deal directly with the problems brought to the attention of members of the House of Commons. In this way members and their secretaries would not have to spend time trying to resolve the problems at the passport office.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am not sure if the question is in order, but the speech was such an excellent one—

**Mr. Winch:** Also urgent.

**Mr. Speaker:** I respect the fact that it is urgent. Perhaps the responsible minister might wish to reply.

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, the subject is being dealt with several times a week by the minister responsible. He will be in the house tomorrow. Perhaps the question can be asked again at that time.

**Mr. Winch:** On a supplementary, may I say that yesterday the minister said he would be here today and give a full statement.

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, the minister had to leave for Toronto to represent the government at a funeral.

**Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West):** I would like to ask the Prime Minister why the government made the decision to amend the passport regulations when it was announced by the Queen's Printer the necessary replacement forms would not be available across the country until the month of July, yet—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I am sure the hon. member recognizes the question in this form is argumentative.

**Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond):** A further supplementary, Mr. Speaker, to the Prime Minister since he has taken it upon himself to answer. Will the government provide seating accommodation for 50 to 55 people now sitting on the floor waiting on their passports in that office?

## AIR TRANSPORT

## CANADIAN PACIFIC AIRLINES AUCKLAND-VANCOUVER CONTRACT

**Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford):** I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. I refer to a question by my colleague last Friday concerning the cancellation in the immediate future by the New Zealand government of Canadian Pacific Airlines landing rights in New Zealand. Has the Minister of Transport had an opportunity of discussing this matter with the New Zealand High Commissioner or has he discussed the matter with his colleague, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, with a view to negotiating further landing rights for Canadian Pacific