

are involved, thousands of Cuban families would like to emigrate to Peru. Does Canada intend for humanitarian reasons to provide some leadership to solve that problem? If so, what steps will Canada take to assist those people?

[English]

**Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Minister of Employment and Immigration):** Madam Speaker, I would like to thank the hon. member for the question and indicate to the House that the government of Peru has contacted a number of governments, including our own, asking for assistance in the resettlement of "asylees" from Cuba and those who are presently located in the Peruvian embassy.

At the present moment they are in unusual circumstances because they do not fit the strict international definition of refugees; but considering the very severe suffering that is going on, and deprivation that is taking place, the Government of Canada has indicated to the Peruvian authorities and to Cuban authorities that we are prepared to take, at this point, up to 300 "asylees" from that area and also to provide federal financial assistance in resettlement programs when necessary. We are also prepared to consider further measures once the situation clarifies itself, but we are taking that initial step.

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## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

### BOYCOTTING OF OLYMPIC GAMES IN MOSCOW

**Mr. Arnold Malone (Crowfoot):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. I would like to ask him if he would announce today that Canada will support the United States in the Olympic boycott.

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Madam Speaker, the hon. member probably heard us make our position clear on this matter during the campaign.

**Mr. Crosbie:** What is it? Come off it, Pierre; get your skis on.

**Mr. Trudeau:** We believe that the invasion of Afghanistan is something which not only should be condemned by our country and like-minded countries, but we also believe it is very important to found our policy on the vote of 104 nations at the United Nations which on January 14 condemned the invasion of Afghanistan.

Our policy on the Olympics and on other matters has not just been to take stands of our own, and in this matter I have indicated in a recent letter to President Carter that we would support him in the measures he announced and that we would join him in those measures. However, it is also important for us to bring other countries along so that we maintain this front of 104 nations or as many nations as possible to continue in our condemnation of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

## Oral Questions

**Mr. Malone:** Madam Speaker, for a moment I thought I was going to have to say that silence may not be golden; it might be just plain yellow.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Malone:** I would like to ask the Prime Minister now if he can tell us how many of the 104 nations he has coming on stream to give that support to the United States when they so desperately need it, as does the world.

**Mr. Trudeau:** Madam Speaker, I might point out to the hon. member that it does not take much courage just to announce that you are going to boycott the Olympics.

**An hon. Member:** Try it.

**Mr. Trudeau:** And it would not have much effect, either, on the presence of the Soviet troops in Afghanistan.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Trudeau:** It is perhaps a more difficult policy, but a more important one, to ensure that this united front of nations against that invasion be maintained in as large a proportion as possible, and that is what we are working at.

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## CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD

### LOSSES TO FARMERS DUE TO U.S. EMBARGO ON GRAIN TO U.S.S.R.—GOVERNMENT POLICY

**Mr. Stan J. Hovdebo (Prince Albert):** Madam Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport, who is the spokesman for the Canadian Wheat Board in this House. In view of the fact that the decision by the Carter administration to put an embargo on the shipment of grain to the Soviet Union has already hurt the Canadian farmer to the extent of 80 cents per bushel since December 28, 1979, will the minister tell us if this government plans to follow the policy suggested by the previous administration to make up these losses to farmers so that the nation as a whole—not just grain producers—will pay for the effects of this embargo?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Transport):** Madam Speaker, this is a very debatable subject, but my information and knowledge at this time is that western farmers are not being affected by the policy that Canada has had with respect to the export of grains to the Soviet Union.

**Mr. Hovdebo:** Madam Speaker, in the light of that answer, my supplementary question is directed to the Prime Minister. Is it this government's intention to continue the policy brought about by the previous administration to support the grain embargo on additional sales of grain to the Soviet Union? If so, will the Prime Minister assure this House that grain producers will not be the only victims who will have to bear the brunt of that policy?