

Mr. Andras: The report I shall be tabling tomorrow relates to benefit control operations and is not related to the second portion of the hon. member's question.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Joliette.

Mr. Alexander: On a point of order—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member has already asked three questions. We have to proceed. I will recognize the hon. member for Hamilton West for a third supplementary and then the hon. member for Joliette.

Mr. Alexander: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister said "That's enough." I respectfully say to the Prime Minister that he does not sit in the chair. His position over there is only temporary.

An hon. Member: He said he was there for keeps.

Mr. Alexander: You know, it's amazing how one percentage point can bring back that same old arrogance.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Alexander: Mr. Speaker, I am just trying to get information for the benefit of hon. members. If you have patience you will see it is very revealing. I am trying to ask the minister whether he now has sufficient information by way of the report from the advisory committee to enable him to proceed with the long-awaited Bill C-125 or an amended version thereof, or does he have to pussyfoot continually—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Alexander: —and acquire another report in order to stall this important bill?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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[Translation]

SPORTS

1976 MONTREAL OLYMPIC GAMES—ISSUANCE OF COMMEMORATIVE STAMP

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Postmaster General.

Since it is so important for the Montreal Olympic Games Committee to be able to arrange for the sale of a 1976 commemorative stamp which would provide an income which would enable them to implement part of the project, may I ask whether the Postmaster General can tell us when the stamp will be available?

Hon. André Ouellet (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, I understand a bill on the Montreal Olympic Games is now being prepared and I can assure the hon. member that as soon as parliament has approved the legislation the Canadian Post Office will be prepared to give a positive reply to the committee's request.

Oral Questions

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

VIET NAM—RENEWAL OF HOSTILITIES—MEASURES TO RECONVENE PARIS CONFERENCE

Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Hon. members seem to have a somewhat early attack of Easter fever. I would invite them to allow the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe to ask his question.

Mr. Wagner: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to address my question to the hon. Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Further to the other questions which have been asked this afternoon, and which reflect the concern of hon. members over the resumption of hostilities in Indochina, could the Secretary of State for External Affairs indicate what steps Canada has taken to reconvene the Paris conference?

[English]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, as I answered earlier in reply to a previous question, we felt it would be advisable to get a report on the helicopter tragedy from the International Control Commission before we proceeded to consider whether we should try to invoke a reconvening of the Paris conference. At the present time we do not think an undertaking of that sort would be successful. We would prefer to sound out the grounds in advance.

[Translation]

Mr. Wagner: I have a supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

Since the bombardments in Laos and Cambodia have nothing to do with the helicopter incident, is the minister considering the possibility of reconvening a conference in Paris so that peace in Indochina could be achieved once and for all?

[English]

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that as a member of the International Control Commission we would have a responsibility to call the conference into session in regard to matters related to the operations of the commission itself. The breaches of the agreement which have been made by the bombing and by the intrusions of North Vietnamese troops and so on are of a more general character. Our membership in the conference derives from our position as members of the commission. Otherwise we would never have been there. So it seems to me we should take initiatives when the subject relates to the commission itself and not to these more general breaches which it would be more appropriate for the great powers to raise.

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): I do not know whether I heard the minister clearly. Did he indicate that by the bombing on the part of the United States and because of the bombing there has been a breach? Is that what he meant when he referred to bombing a moment ago?