

those major projects to be reviewed, along with others, by the task force and by Cabinet, so that the fiscal disorder we found can be corrected.

[*Translation*]

INQUIRY WHEN DECISION WILL BE MADE ON LOCATING
INSTITUTE AT SHERBROOKE

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. The Prime Minister made an election promise on July 24. I am talking about 400 jobs for the people of Sherbrooke, eight months have gone by since then, and all I want to know is when the Government will make that decision on behalf of the people of Sherbrooke?

[*English*]

Hon. Bob Layton (Minister of State (Mines)): Mr. Speaker, the problem has been produced by the Liberals over a period of 10 years.

Mr. Nystrom: When?

Some Hon. Members: Twenty years.

Mr. Layton: Twenty years, I am advised by my colleagues. I can assure the Hon. Member that this will be one of the subjects discussed in the near future as the Budget is presented.

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LABOUR RELATIONS STRIKE IN STEEL INDUSTRY

Mr. Allan Pietz (Welland): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Labour. Atlas Steel, Canada's major producer of stainless steel, is on strike in both Welland, Ontario, and Sorel, Quebec. Because of the importance of that industry to Canada's economy and international trade, and considering the welfare of the workers in my community of Welland, I wish to ask the Minister if he has any plan for the development of a strategy to outline new ways of uniting management and labour the better to meet today's challenge in the steel industry.

● (1440)

Hon. Bill McKnight (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I cannot comment on the industrial dispute to which the Hon. Member referred. However, in response to the latter part of his question, I can refer him to a steel conference which took place in Sault Ste. Marie last weekend, put together by Labour Canada with the assistance of our colleagues from the Departments of Employment and Immigration, and International Trade. We brought together 50 representatives of the largest industrial union in Canada, the United Steelworkers, and 34 leaders in management from all the leading steel companies in Canada, including the one to which the Hon. member referred.

Oral Questions

That group broke into four separate sections to explore, among other things, offshore imports, fair trade with the United States, technological change and its impact upon industry, the status and future of the steel industry, and the requirements—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Hon. Member for Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke.

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NATIONAL DEFENCE

LOW LEVEL AIR DEFENCE CONTRACT

Mr. Len Hopkins (Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Defence. In his low level air defence announcement of May 8 the Minister stated that two of the companies on the chosen list were from Switzerland and one was from Sweden. Neither of those is a NATO country, and not all of the equipment has been proven or established. Indeed, the missiles are all new to NATO countries in Europe. It is crucial that an anti-aircraft gun, missile, and electronics system, blend with those of our NATO allies.

How does the Minister of National Defence justify to our NATO allies that his Conservative Government has selected non-NATO countries for the entire short list to produce a low level air defence system? How does he explain his acceptance of certain non proven equipment, when he and his Conservative colleagues advertised for an established or proven system? Is this why the \$600 million project ended up back on the Prime Minister's desk?

Hon. Erik Nielsen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, it is not back on my desk at all. The announcement was made in the House of Commons last week, I believe. I thought the Hon. Member was here, but perhaps he was absent at the time.

It is not uncommon for allies within NATO to acquire their equipment from outside the alliance. This goes on all the time, as it has for years. In this particular instance I was very gratified to be able to say that a very minimum of 70 per cent of the requirement in fulfilling the LLAD commitment—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Order, please! Supplementary question.

Mr. Hopkins: Mr. Speaker—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Hopkins: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I like your civility much better than the new civility brought in by the new Government.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!