

Oral Questions

very interested in over-viewing the regional distribution of the total offsets in order to ensure that within Canada there is total employment created as a result of the investments which are to be made primarily in the aeronautics industry, which is of interest to the hon. gentleman and will compromise about 60 per cent of the value of those offsets.

Mr. Deans: Madam Speaker, I have a supplementary question which I should like to ask and I do not know quite who will answer, but I will ask it in the hope that someone knows the answer. The figure for 1995 is no good for us. There are tens of thousands of people unemployed today, and right now there are 1,000 people who have been laid off by McDonnell Douglas. We are spending \$4 billion. I ask, why is it that it is impossible to require of that company that they create here in Canada jobs for the people who are unemployed today and who will perhaps not need jobs in 1995?

Mr. Blais: Madam Speaker, under the terms of the agreement which was signed with McDonnell Douglas there was a recognition that that company would request from the marketplace, including Canada, bids in terms of the subcontracts that were to be let. I know the hon. gentleman is thinking about the structural package which involves four components which are to be included within the F-18. As the Minister of State for Small Businesses indicated to the hon. gentleman last week, the bids have now been received, they are being reviewed and a statement is to be made jointly by McDonnell Douglas and the government within the near future.

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[Translation]

TRADE

REQUEST FOR PROGRESS REPORT ON PREPARATIONS FOR JUNE 1981 NORTH-SOUTH CONFERENCE

Mr. Herb Breau (Gloucester): Madam Speaker, could the Prime Minister tell the House whether the exchanges he had with the heads of state he met during his recent trip, especially the president of Mexico, have assured him that the preparations for next June's conference on the North-South dialogue are progressing? And in light of his talks with several heads of state does he feel that the June conference will lead to significant conclusions, particularly on issues such as the reform of the monetary system, of the International Monetary Fund, of trade and commerce and of recycling petro-dollars?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker, I would answer the hon. member for Gloucester by expressing my thoughts and saying frankly that I feel moderately optimistic. I spoke with President Portillo and Chancellor Kreisky, the two co-chairmen responsible for organizing the proposed June summits. I assured them of our government's full support, both as a participant and as an adviser should they need further consultations with us. But I am unable to say whether the preparations are going well or not. I think I am

confident that the conference will be held but there are indications that other countries have expressed some doubts.

Among others we do not know whether the United States will want to take part or not. I think that many of the invited countries will wait for the decision of the President of the United States before announcing their position. That is not our case. I can assure the hon. member our intention would be to participate in any event if the conference is held.

I would simply remind the hon. member that the main objective of my trip was not to prepare the North-South June conference, which is the responsibility of the two co-chairmen, but rather to make sure that the stage will be properly set for the conference which is scheduled for Ottawa in July and whose central topic will be the North-South dialogue. That was the first priority of my tour.

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[English]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

JAMES CROSS KIDNAPPING—ARREST OF SUSPECT

Hon. Allan Lawrence (Durham-Northumberland): Madam Speaker, my question is for the Solicitor General. Now that the last court hearing has been held in the case of the sixth man in the James Cross kidnapping case, one Nigel Barry Hamer, who pleaded guilty to four serious charges of being involved in the kidnapping during the FLQ crisis of October, 1970, in view of the fact that most of those arrests have taken place under the supervision of the RCMP, that Mr. Hamer was identified as being an accomplice very shortly after the actual kidnapping took place, that there has been constant police surveillance since then, and that there have been authorized telephone tapings of Mr. Hamer's telephone since then—

Some hon. Members: Question.

Mr. Lawrence: —my question to the Solicitor General is simply this: Why has it taken ten years to arrest somebody who is obviously guilty?

Hon. Bob Kaplan (Solicitor General): Madam Speaker, this investigation was conducted by the Quebec Provincial Police, although the RCMP co-operated fully over the years and provided information to that police force. I think the question which the hon. member has asked should be directed to the attorney general of that province.

Mr. Lawrence: The object of my question is, obviously, to try to find out if there has been any negligence, bungling, lack of co-operation or complicity to hide someone from public scrutiny in a very serious matter. Obviously the RCMP has been involved and the Solicitor General is in charge of the RCMP. Has he asked the Minister of Justice of the province of Quebec this question? Has it occurred to him to ask it?

An hon. Member: Did you?