

Government Orders

The Prime Minister's entourage, in their brilliance, decided that they wanted to have the Prime Minister's own personal limousine in Costa Rica. What did they do? They took a government plane, I believe a Hercules, loaded two Cadillacs into the Hercules, and flew it down to Costa Rica. Little did they know that the cars here work with unleaded gas while those in Costa Rica do not. Guess what happened. They drove the cars out of the plane and the tanks were empty. They had to load them back on the plane and fly them back here because there was no gas. That is the kind of stupidity that we see from the government people across the way. Then they dare to ask us for \$25.5 billion. I repeat what I said before, no, *nyet*, not one cent.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): Resuming debate with the hon. member for Trinity—Spadina.

Mr. Dan Heap (Trinity—Spadina): Madam Speaker—
[*Translation*]

Mr. Saint-Julien: Wait until I ask you my question about the 20 years of Liberal administration and the Challengers.

An hon. member: Please, ask other questions!

Mr. Saint-Julien: I know your tricks!

An hon. member: We are telling you a few things, my boy!

An hon. member: Watch out, let us keep a curl tongue!

[*English*]

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): Order, order. Thank you. We will all listen to the hon. member for Trinity—Spadina.

Mr. Langdon: I rise on a point of order. I just wanted to check with you, Madam Speaker, to see that the disturbance which took place at the start of my colleague's speech would not be deducted from his time or anything like that. Could I have your assurance on that?

• (1630)

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): I can assure the hon. member that I will not even deduct his intervention.

Mr. Langdon: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. I appreciate that.

Mr. Dan Heap (Trinity—Spadina): Madam Speaker, I am pleased to have a chance to join in the debate on Bill C-65 through which the government is asking us to vote \$25.5 billion borrowing authority. This is an amount almost as large as the annual deficit that this government runs, and it is remarkable that it would ask us to vote for it. Of course, it has ways of getting its results without letting us debate very much but I am glad that at least it has allowed us a little time to debate this because there is a serious point that I want to raise, and that is, as has been made clear by the finance minister, the extent to which Canada is losing its sovereignty through being indebted to foreign lenders.

This government started out in September, 1984, by saying that Canada needs foreign capital. It has turned handsprings to reduce all the defences that Canada had to prevent takeovers by foreign capital and reduction of our own capital, but now this government is admitting that in a sense we have too much control by foreign capital.

It is very interesting, in the light of the euphoria in our country and the joy of some people over what is happening in eastern Europe with forums of democracy being brought into eastern Europe that are more familiar to Canada, that our own democracy, with the forums that we like, is finding itself less and less able to do the democratic thing because of our subordination to foreign capital.

It is all the more remarkable because this was apparently never thought of by this government before November 21, 1988. In the months preceding November 21, 1988, this government was promising to spend billions and billions of dollars on every program you could think of. There was no problem. There was no worry about external debt, no worry about the annual deficit. You would like more day care? Certainly, more day care. More of this? Certainly, more of that, and so on.

After November 21, 1988, when this government got elected, partly on the basis of those inflationary promises, the finance minister suddenly discovered that we have a big external debt and a big deficit. So he not only had to wipe out most of the promises he had made, he had also to undo many of the gains that this country had