

Oral Questions

Mr. Pennock: Supplementary.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Burnaby.

* * *

CANADIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE

REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF WARRANTS

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Solicitor General. He will know that, according to the Security Intelligence Review Committee, it is the Solicitor General's personal responsibility to ensure the accuracy of information contained in affidavits which are used for warrants.

In view of the obvious failure of his predecessor to exercise his responsibilities to review these assertions carefully, will he undertake to the House and the people of Canada that he will review all of the warrants which were issued under the tenure of his predecessor, to ensure that they were not similarly the subject of lies, of reliance on unreliable informants? Will he not accept that there is a very serious risk that the civil liberties of Canadians have been violated because of the derogation of responsibility by his predecessor?

Hon. James Kelleher (Solicitor General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, I do not accept the premise of the Hon. Member's question that there was any derogation on the part of the former Solicitor General in question, or indeed any Solicitor General.

The Hon. Member knows full well that the Solicitor General's role under the Act is to ensure that the request for a warrant meets the test of Section 12 of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service Act and is strictly necessary for the security of Canada. I am quite satisfied from my investigation that all former Solicitors General indeed met that test of their responsibility.

However, with respect to the veracity of the facts contained in the affidavit, as I advised the Hon. Member in this House the other day, I have ordered a complete audit of all warrants to ensure that no other inaccuracies exist.

[*Translation*]

ALLEGED INFILTRATION OF CNTU BY DOUBLE AGENT—
GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby): Mr. Speaker, it is quite clear that the Canadian Security Intelligence Service is facing a crisis and that this Minister is incompetent and should resign.

Last Friday, the Crown Attorney in the Marc Boivin case openly confirmed that Mr. Boivin was a double agent infiltrated into the CNTU and paid by the CSIS.

My question is this: How can this Minister explain that infiltration of the Quebec labour movement by the CSIS, an

infiltration that recalls the worst days of RCMP abuse in Quebec in the past? How can he justify that infiltration?

[*English*]

Hon. James Kelleher (Solicitor General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, I have answered similar questions from the Hon. Member on other occasions. All I can do is repeat what I said on previous occasions. Mr. Boivin himself has admitted that he was a source. He was never an agent of CSIS. We do not have the authority under the CSIS Act to target a labour union. We never have and we never will. If he has evidence to that effect, I would ask him to please put forward the facts on which that allegation is made.

* * *

[*Translation*]

REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

MATANE PAPER MILL—JOB CREATION—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Raymond Garneau (Laval-Des-Rapides): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion and the Minister of State for Science and Technology, I shall address my question to the Prime Minister.

My question concerns regional development in the Gaspé Peninsula and the North Shore region. The *Journal de Montréal* had an article some time ago saying that the federal Government was dragging its feet about the Matane project. There was also an article quoting the comments of the Conservative Member for Matane who had reportedly stated that this issue had become essentially political. He invited his Government to respect the commitments made to the population of Matapédia—Matane.

I therefore ask the Prime Minister whether he intends to keep this commitment, as requested by the Conservative Member of Parliament for this constituency, and when his Government will make an announcement about providing assistance for a paper mill in the Matane region, which would create 300 jobs.

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the Matane project is now being considered. It is an important project as it involves job creation in a region which greatly needs more jobs. I presume that there will be an announcement in due time by both Governments and by the private sector.

In view of the situation in Quebec, the important thing would be for the Quebec leader of the Liberal Party to tell us exactly his position on Bill C-22, which would create 1,300 new jobs in the Montreal region. At this very moment, the non-elected Liberal senators are strangling economic development in Greater Montreal, and I invite the Hon. Member to take a position for the Quebec population and to say no to the Liberal Senate.