

*Oral Questions***CROWN CORPORATIONS**

SALE OF DE HAVILLAND—MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Mr. Mike Cassidy (Ottawa Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the President of the Treasury Board. There are a large number of unanswered questions with respect to the Government's sale of de Havilland aircraft to Boeing, and those questions must be answered before that deal goes through.

Mr. Deans: Hear, hear!

Mr. Rodriguez: Hear, hear!

Mr. Cassidy: Will Parliament be able to review the memorandum of understanding with Boeing in the de Havilland sale before the deal is closed? And if so, when?

Hon. Robert de Cotret (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member is talking about a lot of unanswered questions.

Mr. Fulton: That's right.

Mr. de Cotret: In this House—

Mr. Gauthier: That's par for the course.

Mr. de Cotret: The Hon. Member for Ottawa-Vanier says this is par for the course. It certainly is for this Government.

Mr. Fulton: That's right. Two strikes now.

Mr. de Cotret: In this House we have talked about price, valuation, book value—

Mr. Deans: No, we've talked about it.

Mr. Gauthier: We've talked about it.

Mr. de Cotret:—tax implications, credit notes, world product mandate, technology guarantees, Government equity, future Government infusion, royalties, product liability insurance, corporate liabilities, Government programs, Canadian content—

Mr. Fulton: What are you, a lexicon?

Mr. de Cotret:—supplier commitment, R and D, technology guarantees, insurance—

Mr. Deans: You haven't talked about it; that's the problem.

Mr. de Cotret:—new investment, upgrading of the plant—

Some Hon. Members: Order.

Mr. de Cotret: If the Hon. Member has further questions to ask, please ask the questions and I will answer them—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

[Translation]

Mr. Cassidy: Mr. Speaker, we have asked the questions about all these matters, but the Government has refused to answer them or to refer everything to a parliamentary committee. These questions also concern the sale of Canadair.

REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION OF TAX CONCESSIONS FOR BOEING AND DE HAVILLAND

Mr. Mike Cassidy (Ottawa Centre): Mr. Speaker, my second question is as follows: Are the figures for the tax concessions and financial benefits—estimated at \$600 million—Boeing stands to receive as part of this transaction correct? If not, what is, according to the Government's estimate, the figure for the concessions and financial benefits we are giving Boeing?

Hon. Robert de Cotret (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, with respect to the preamble to the question put by my hon. friend from Ottawa-Centre, I must say that it is entirely false. We have answered all these questions I just enumerated.

As for the Hon. Member's supplementary, it is entirely unfounded as well. There is absolutely no basis for the figure of \$600 million. The agreements we made with Boeing and de Havilland do not in any way involve \$600 million. I never saw this figure and never heard about it, and I would ask the Hon. Member to tell us on what he based his estimate. I know nothing about this figure.

[English]

Mr. Kaplan: Mr. Speaker, I would be glad to send the statement of the \$580 million which we have calculated the Government will be contributing.

BOEING COMPANY'S REPORTED HIRING OF PROPELLOR ENGINEERS

Hon. Bob Kaplan (York Centre): I want to ask the President of the Treasury Board a question. Eight months ago the Boeing Corporation won a \$2 billion contract from the U.S. Navy to build propellor planes. Does the Minister know that Boeing came to Toronto, set up shop at the Triumph Hotel, which is three blocks away from de Havilland, raided that company for propellor engineers, and hired away ten of them who have now moved to Philadelphia? They were propellor research experts at de Havilland. They are now working in Philadelphia in the company's research centre there. Is the Minister aware of that? Does he not realize that any multinational corporation can raid the technological resources of a branch plant or division in Canada? Does the Minister approve of that? What assurances are—

● (1130)

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I think that was two questions which were long enough.