Oral Questions

inspectors into the province of Quebec under the Food and Drugs Act.

[Translation]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, once again, the hon. member is still vague in the information he is referring to. The legislation I referred to is the Public Health Act, Quebec R.S., Chap. 21, and the regulations under the act, and the hon. member only has to refer to them; they are quite clear.

[English]

IMMIGRATION

SUGGESTED REVIEW OF METHOD OF OBTAINING BACKGROUND IMFORMATION ON POTENTIAL IMMIGRANTS

Mr. Derek Blackburn (Brant): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Since the minister did not understand my question yesterday concerning why the normal investigation into the background of General Van Quang was not undertaken prior to his entry into Canada, I will try again with a related question. A recent press report alleged that a self-confessed torturer, bomber and accessory to murder who was also a CIA-trained Uruguayan police officer, Nelson Bardecio, has been granted landed immigrant status under somewhat strange circumstances. Can the minister assure the House that his present method of relying on foreign-based intelligence agencies such as the CIA for information concerning potential immigrants to Canada is being seriously looked into at this time?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the people responsible for advising on the security or criminality of applicants for admission to Canada do not concentrate on the use of one or another agency. They use various sources of information, so the CIA was not the only source of information used.

Mr. Blackburn: Mr. Speaker, as the RCMP normally relies upon outside agencies for information about potential immigrants, and since cases such as those of Quang and Bardecio make it clear that agencies such as the CIA are not going to provide information about the criminal activities of their former paid agents, is the minister, along with his colleague the Solicitor General, considering measures to guard against the use of Canada for cooling off former CIA employees and keeping them out of the eye of United States Congressional committees?

Mr. Andras: Mr. Speaker, I will note the hon. member's representations.

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AIR TRANSPORT

AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL COMMUNICATIONS—SUGGESTED RECONSIDERATION OF POLICY ON BILINGUALISM

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Minister of Transport. In light [Mr. McGrath.] of the BILCOM report put forth by the minister's task force investigating bilingualism in respect of air traffic control communications which did not receive the support of the Canadian Air Traffic Controllers Association, will the minister, in the interest of public safety, agree to the recommendations of the Canadian Air Traffic Controllers Association and either place geographical restrictions on unilingual pilots or provide them with English language training so that they can communicate with ground stations in controlled air space?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I think I made public both reports, the majority report and the minority report. I have received representations from the Pilots Association which I think is a good thing. When I have received all the representations, which are of any value, I will see what kind of policy we will design in that field.

FISHERIES

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SUGGESTED UNILATERAL DECLARATION OF CONTROL OF MARINE RESOURCES TO CONTINENTAL SHELF— GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Walter C. Carter (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Acting Prime Minister. In view of the very serious problems facing our Canadian fishermen and the fact that they are facing perhaps total destruction of their means of earning a livelihood because of the over-fishing efforts of the foreign fishing fleets off our coast, and in light of the fact that the Geneva Law of the Sea Conference and all other such conferences have failed to find a solution to that very serious problem, is the Acting Prime Minister prepared to say if the government will establish a date, preferably sometime in 1975, beyond which Canada will not tolerate any further plundering on the part of foreign fishing fleets and will unilaterally declare its right and its intention to manage and control our marine resources to the slope of the continental shelf.

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the alternative the hon. member has put up is one that is under consideration by the government. If the Law of the Sea Conference lamentably fails to achieve a general agreement, then it is certainly one that we would consider. I cannot, of course, give any dates because it is still our objective that there should be an international agreement.

Mr. Carter: Mr. Speaker, the Acting Prime Minister referred to the Law of the Sea Conference. I presume he was talking about the ICNAF meetings in Stockholm. Will he tell the House whether it is the intention of the government to make such a declaration if our delegation fails to reach the agreement being sought at the ICNAF conference whereby we are requesting that the fishing efforts of foreign nationals be reduced by 40 per cent.

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, we could only get the authority the hon. member seeks over our off-shore either through international agreement at the Law of the Sea Conference, or an international convention or by unilateral declara-