

Oral Questions

chance to communicate its conclusions to the House, before the sale is finalized?

[English]

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Acting Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion): Mr. Speaker, this matter is still in the hands of the CDIC. I have not received its recommendations, and so I am not able to give the Hon. Member the undertaking to which he has referred.

REQUEST FOR PARLIAMENTARY REVIEW

Mr. Mike Cassidy (Ottawa Centre): Mr. Speaker, there are very serious concerns about jobs and about ownership in this particular area. Is the Minister aware of the very serious pledge made by his predecessor who said: "We want to assure all Canadians that the divestiture will be administered responsibly with an opportunity for appropriate parliamentary review"? Will the Government guarantee that that review will take place by a committee and that it will be able to report back to Parliament before the sale is finalized in the fall?

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Acting Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I undertook to meet with representatives of the unions yesterday. We had a very good meeting and a very good discussion. I think they went away satisfied. The Hon. Member should recall the fear and the apprehension that he spread in this House with respect to the potential takeover of de Havilland. I think history speaks for itself—de Havilland is flying high.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES

VIDEO TAPING OF PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO UNITED STATES

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Deputy Prime Minister. It pertains to the Prime Minister's extravagant spending of taxpayers' money for his own personal glorification. Will the Deputy Prime Minister explain to unemployed Canadians who can barely afford the necessities of life why the Prime Minister of Canada spent taxpayers' money to the tune of \$2,483.21 per minute so that the American people could have the opportunity—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Hon. Member, I think, can conclude his question.

Ms. Copps: This is his question.

Mr. Boudria: Will the Deputy Prime Minister tell the people of Canada why the Prime Minister spent that kind of money for his greatness to be seen on television by United States citizens?

An Hon. Member: That's out of order.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: He used Taiwanese film.

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I presume the Hon. Member is talking about the gathering of videotape for a—

Mr. Ouellet: If you don't know the answer then sit down.

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): I am getting coached in the House of Commons by the Hon. Member for Papineau.

Mr. Ouellet: Indeed. Sit down!

[Translation]

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): He often helps me with my French, and that I don't mind.

[English]

The situation is very clear, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Guilbault (Saint-Jacques): We know that. What is the answer?

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): I will explain it, if I am given a chance by the Opposition. The answer is that, starting with the Trudeau Government in earlier years, there has been the practice—

Mr. Dingwall: He was Prime Minister longer than you.

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): —of gathering material that can then be made available for communication, for distribution, to television stations in the United States to increase the profile of Canada in that country. That process, when it is followed, is a part of the cost that would be—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Hon. Minister knows that this is long, too. Supplementary question.

Mr. Marchi: That's a hell of a particle!

[Translation]

INQUIRY CONCERNING DURATION OF PRACTICE

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): I have a supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Could the Secretary of State for External Affairs inform Canadians how long they will have to put up with this kind of extravagance, just so Americans will have a chance to the Prime Minister's face on television?

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, it is not an extravagance. In fact, if Canada had opted for one of the other media, such as newspaper advertising, the cost would have been much higher.

[English]

The facts here are that videotapes were taken of a very significant, newsworthy event involving Canada and the United States.