

*Oral Questions*

After the tabling of Bill C-62 yesterday by the Minister of National Health and Welfare concerning the possible payment of a pension to the spouse of a person in respect of whom payment of a pension has already been authorized under the Old Age Security Act, may I ask the parliamentary secretary whether, once this bill has been adopted and should the older of the spouses happen to die, the surviving spouse will automatically lose his or her pension entitlement under Bill C-62?

**Mr. Speaker:** I apologize to the hon. member, but since the President of the Privy Council has already indicated that this bill will be introduced in the House later this week, presumably on Friday, perhaps the hon. member for Bellechasse would wait until then to ask his questions about Bill C-62.

**Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse):** I thank you, Mr. Speaker, for advising me that Bill C-62 will come this week before the House.

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**LABOUR CONDITIONS****STRIKE OF LONGSHOREMEN IN QUEBEC—REQUEST FOR REPORT ON POSSIBILITY OF SETTLEMENT**

**Mr. Serge Joyal (Maisonneuve-Rosemont):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour.

Could he advise the House on the progress made in the few last hours to straighten out the situation in the Montreal harbour?

[*English*]

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour):** It is my understanding, following a gathering of longshoremen in Montreal this morning that they are going back to work.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

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**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS****SALE OF CANDU REACTOR TO SOUTH KOREA—SANCTIONS IN SAFEGUARD AGREEMENT**

**Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. It arises from the announcement on May 28 that Canada had signed a contract for the sale of a CANDU reactor to South Korea and that the negotiations have been completed for a \$380 million loan. Would the minister advise the House whether his department embarked on any reassessment of the safety of this sale following the surrender of the Thieu forces in South Viet Nam? Has he been advised that the strategic situation in South Korea remains the same or is there an increased risk in the sale of this reactor?

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** At the present time we are continuing negotiations with respect to the conclusion of a bilateral safeguard agreement with South Korea. As the hon.

[*Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse).*]

member knows, South Korea has ratified the non-proliferation treaty with the result that the total nuclear system within that country will be under internationally inspected safeguards—the maximum possible safeguard system which can be devised at the present time. This, combined with the Canadian bilateral agreement will be adequate in the circumstances. To reply more directly to the political aspects, we have not reached a conclusion that the political situation has changed to warrant a change in our position.

**Mr. Leggatt:** Perhaps the minister would table the proposed agreement, or the agreement, in the event one is reached. Would the minister tell us what sanctions are contained in the proposed agreement? What penalty would be imposed on the government of South Korea in the event that South Korea diverted plutonium from its reactor and joined the nuclear club as India has done? I ask this question in the light of a report that the South Korean ambassador has stated that safeguards were an interference with South Korea's affairs. What sanctions would be imposed and how would they be enforced? Would we send Canadian troops into Korea?

**Mr. MacEachen:** The hon. member will be glad to know we are not proposing to send Canadian troops to South Korea. The safeguards are under international inspection, under an international agency, and any contemplated or active diversion of plutonium for non-peaceful purposes would quickly become apparent to the inspectors and the devices they install. That, of course, is the purpose of the overall inspection system.

**An hon. Member:** And then what?

**Mr. MacEachen:** The hon. member realizes that ours is a bilateral agreement and that the NPT is a multilateral agreement; we count, as does the international community, on member states adhering to their commitments.

**SALE OF URANIUM TO JAPAN—GUARANTEE OF PEACEFUL USE—SANCTIONS IN SAFEGUARD AGREEMENT**

**Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North):** With reference to the contract with Japan which I understand calls for delivery of 2,000 tons of uranium, may I ask what guarantees there are that this material will be used for peaceful purposes? Is there really any form of guarantee, when we make these deals, that the material we provide will be used for commercial and peaceful purposes?

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Yes, Mr. Speaker. The inspection system is entirely focused upon the objective of ensuring that this material and this technology are not diverted for non-peaceful purposes. That is the objective, and it is secured within these safeguard agreements.

**Mr. Woolliams:** What penalty or sanction would Canada impose if it were found after inspection that there had been improper use of this material—that it had been turned to use as a weapon rather than applied to a commercial purpose?