

Oral Questions

very serious concerns raised in terms of appeal or second testing, as the Minister of Transport has raised.

Mr. Nystrom: For Air Canada baggage people?

Mr. Epp (Provencher): But those are the conditions under which the Government is proceeding on its national program.

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TRADE

UNITED STATES DUTY ON CANADIAN SOFTWOOD LUMBER

Mr. Keith Penner (Cochrane—Superior): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister for International Trade. Yesterday I received a letter from the Ontario Lumber Manufacturers' Association which states in part:

The entire industry, across Canada, remains resolute in its unanimous decision, through C.F.I.C., to continue the lumber C.V.D. defence to the end, without concessions or deals such as the Government proposals which have seriously compromised our position.

I ask the Minister, Mr. Speaker, why has she refused to support the lumber industry and its thousands of workers across the country? Why has she been so weak?

Hon. Pat Carney (Minister for International Trade): Mr. Speaker, on this very difficult issue we have been consistent in our efforts to seek a solution which will retain Canada's sovereignty, keep the revenues in Canada, leave the provinces the right to manage their own natural resources, which they own, and the flexibility to increase stumpage fees, which are theirs, thereby protecting Canadian industry and protecting Canadian jobs. That has been the consistent approach we have taken from the start of this very difficult situation. We have had the support of the nine provinces that own the timber, and the labour union involved, and a lot of the industry.

CANADIAN SOVEREIGNTY—MINISTER'S POSITION

Mr. Keith Penner (Cochrane—Superior): Mr. Speaker, the letter goes on to state:

It is one thing to negotiate dollars and cents; it is completely unacceptable to negotiate Canada's sovereignty.

● (1500)

Why has the Minister buckled under to U.S. pressure and failed to defend Canadian sovereign interests in determining the value of our own natural resources?

Hon. Pat Carney (Minister for International Trade): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member has it exactly backward. The process we are following, should it be successful and remove this distasteful precedent from the books, will protect our sovereignty. The course he is suggesting will put our sovereignty at risk and open every resource industry in the country to American scrutiny and American management. That is what he will not understand and he fails to accept.

Mr. Penner: Join the industry and fight the thing.

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APARTHEID

SOUTH AFRICA—POSITION OF BORDERING STATES ON IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS

Mr. John Oostrom (Willowdale): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Recently some top ranking officials from African States surrounding South Africa requested that Canada become involved in the military defence of South African transport corridors and key economic projects in Zambia and Zimbabwe. However, the two states bordering South Africa have failed to impose sanctions. Is the Minister investigating the matter? Will he inform these two Commonwealth countries of Canada's disapproval of conducting trade with South Africa?

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, there are several elements to that question. Let me try to sort them out and answer each one. First, if the States referred to are Zambia and Zimbabwe, they have both committed themselves to undertaking the elements of the Nassau Accord, and I believe they will within their capacity to do that. Second, Canada has no intention to provide military aid in the region, although we intend to continue and to increase our aid to Zimbabwe, to Zambia, to other countries in the front line states, and to SADCC. Third, I think any fair minded individual would acknowledge, in terms of the burden being borne caused by apartheid, that people who live in Zambia and Zimbabwe bear much more of the burden and often much more lethally than we do in Canada.

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DISASTERS

CHERNOBYL NUCLEAR ACCIDENT—EFFECT ON CARIBOU IN LABRADOR AND QUEBEC

Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg—Birds Hill): Mr. Speaker, my question is for either the Minister of National Health and Welfare or perhaps the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. It was the Minister of National Health who answered questions relating to Chernobyl in the spring. He may be aware that scientists are looking into the possibility that at least 30,000 caribou in Labrador and Quebec died from radiation contamination caused by the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, according to a provincial wildlife biologist in Newfoundland today. What is the federal Government doing in respect of this possibility? What investigations are taking place as a result of federal government action?

When will we have a statement by the Minister on what monitoring took place in Canada after Chernobyl, where it