

office should be exercised to ensure that there be reasonable connections between EPA and the regional carrier in Atlantic Canada and the airlines which serve the rest of Canada.

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Transport):** I welcome this representation, Madam Speaker.

**Mr. McCain:** The situation is that there are parallel flights by Air Canada and EPA to the same destination.

**Madam Speaker:** Order, please. Will the hon. member ask his question and make it brief?

**Mr. McCain:** What will the minister do to eliminate simultaneous flights by competitive lines? What will he do to eliminate three-hour waits in Montreal when flying from Ottawa to Fredericton? What will he do to make it possible for the people in Atlantic Canada in general, and for EPA in particular to become a viable unit? This company is of great importance to the Atlantic area and should be granted the Toronto franchise.

**Mr. Pepin:** I will do my very best, Madam Speaker.

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● (1200)

#### NATIONAL DEFENCE

##### NORAD—FALSE STRIKE ALERT—EFFECT ON CANADIAN SQUADRONS

**Miss Pauline Jewett (New Westminster-Coquitlam):** Madam Speaker, I have a question for the acting prime minister regarding NORAD being placed on strike alert on Tuesday as a result of a computer error—the second such error in seven months—and at least one plane taking off from Hawaii.

I should like to ask the acting prime minister whether any Canadian bases were put on alert, as Comox was last time, and whether any planes in the Canadian squadrons assigned to NORAD took off.

**An hon. Member:** And have they returned?

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

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Transport):** Madam Speaker, I am advised that of course this was a false alarm and that Canada was informed of the false alarm. I am also informed that no action resulted from it on Canadian soil.

#### Point of Order—Mr. Crosbie

##### INDUSTRY

##### TELIDON PROJECT—APPLICATIONS UNDER ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

**Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma):** Madam Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In view of the success of the Telidon project announced today, is the minister prepared to lend his support to the development and demonstration of private enterprise communication proposals such as the Cable Link Company project in Sault Ste. Marie which has applied for assistance from the enterprise development program, but so far seems to have been bogged down by red tape and now will probably be developed in the United States?

**Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Madam Speaker, I will be very happy to look into the status of the enterprise development program application in question and report back to the hon. member as soon as possible.

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#### POINT OF ORDER

##### MR. CROSBIE—INDEXATION OF PERSONAL INCOME TAX—POSITION OF NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY

**Hon. John C. Crosbie (St. John's West):** Madam Speaker, my point of order has to do with the remarks of the finance critic of the NDP during question period, who suggested that truth was somehow lacking in a comment I had made about the NDP opposing the indexing of personal income tax. As a matter of fact, this may be a question of privilege.

I should like to refer to *Hansard* of June 2, 1980, which clearly shows that the NDP is opposed to indexing of personal income tax, an opposition which was first expressed by them in 1973. At page 1625 of *Hansard* of June 2, the hon. member for Broadview-Greenwood (Mr. Rae) asked this question of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau):

While we may agree that the index is particularly regressive and we oppose its introduction—

That is what the hon. member for Broadview-Greenwood said, that he was opposed to indexing and indexing was regressive.

That was no surprise to me because in 1973 his party pooh-poohed the whole suggestion made in the Turner budget of that year. I should like to quote from *Hansard* of February 21, 1973, at page 1527 when the NDP finance critic spoke in the House about indexing in reply to the budget speech of Mr. Turner. Mr. Saltsman then said that the NDP had "reservations about the indexed income system". They did not care about the low-income taxpayers of Canada. Further on the same page he indicated that indexing was "phony". So the hon. member's indignation was certainly phony when I said that they opposed indexing.

Further on at page 1529 Mr. Saltsman said that the NDP "did not think it is a very good idea". This was the official