

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** The Hon. Member just referred to the announcement that was made by my colleague earlier this week of a substantial Canadian contribution to the International Red Cross to deal with precisely that problem. We will continue to look for other ways in which Canada might be able to be of help in resolving the problems of refugees in Lebanon. We will also look for ways in which we might be able to encourage the forces of peace in that country, and in very many ways the ultimate responsibility for that—I don't mean to shed the responsibility of Canada or others—rests with the Lebanese themselves. We certainly want to do everything we can to encourage all elements in that country to recognize the tragedy of this situation, and to take actions to bring it to an end. To the degree that Canada can help we shall help.

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## AIRPORTS

### PROVISION OF RESCUE SERVICES

**Mr. Iain Angus (Thunder Bay—Atikokan):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. In the spring of 1987 I and my colleagues called upon the Government to provide for a rescue component, as well as a firefighting component, at major Canadian airports. At that time the Government said it was not necessary.

A few days ago, thanks to the Minister of State (Transport), I received a copy of a consultant's report, commissioned in the fall of 1987, and received by the Department this past December. That report recommends that rescue staff be added at a number of major Canadian airports, in addition to the firefighting staff. Will the Minister accept this recommendation and immediately request sufficient additional dollars and person years from Treasury Board to provide this lifesaving service?

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

• (1500)

**Hon. Shirley Martin (Minister of State (Transport)):** Mr. Speaker, as well as to the Hon. Member, the report was sent out to interested parties who had taken part in the consultation process. They have provided their input to me as well as to the Department. It is being studied. Action will be taken on it.

## Oral Questions

### REGIONAL AIRPORTS—FIRE-FIGHTING SERVICES

**Mr. Iain Angus (Thunder Bay—Atikokan):** Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is addressed to the Minister of State for Transport.

The report recommends that the way to pay for this provision of rescue services is through the elimination of fire-fighting services at a number of regional airports throughout Canada, airports such as those at Baie Comeau, London, Norman Wells, Prince Rupert, Stephenville, Whitehorse, and Yarmouth. Will the Minister not indicate that they were prepared to go to Treasury Board for additional moneys and additional person years? At the very least will the Minister repudiate this part of the recommendation and say that in no way, under any circumstances, will the Government of Canada eliminate or reduce the ability of Transport Canada to provide fire-fighting services at these small regional airports?

**Hon. Shirley Martin (Minister of State (Transport)):** Mr. Speaker, in sending out the report for consultation I made a point in the letter that I sent out with it in which I stated that I did not agree with that recommendation.

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[Translation]

## EXTERNAL AID

### REQUEST THAT WORLD SUMMIT BE HELD FOR BENEFIT OF CHILDREN

**Mrs. Christine Stewart (Northumberland):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister for External Relations and concerns a world summit for children.

The Third World's foreign debt burden has forced governments to reduce health expenditures by 50 per cent. Children suffer as a result.

Will the Minister honour the commitment to help the poorest countries and people with a summit where developed and developing countries could deal with the problems of the world's children who live in extreme poverty, even in Canada?

**Hon. Monique Landry (Minister for External Relations):** Mr. Speaker, Canada has already done much to deal with the various problems set forth in the UNICEF report. I think it is worth pointing out the wonderful work UNICEF does to aid women and children, particularly in Third World countries. And I would like to add that Canada is the fourth largest contributor to UNICEF.