

*Oral Questions***EXTERNAL AFFAIRS****PROPOSED SALE OF OFFICE FURNITURE TO CUBA BY LITTON EQUIPMENT—ACTION BY UNITED STATES**

Mr. Alan Martin (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Could the minister indicate if the government has received any response from the government of the United States of America with reference to the concern registered by the Canadian government over the proposed sale of office furniture to Cuba by the Scarborough based firm of Coles Division of Litton Equipment?

An hon. Member: It is all settled.

An hon. Member: That is old news.

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the answer is yes. I believe in this particular case a waiver was granted to allow the sale to go forward. I certainly regard it as a positive development in the situation.

CYPRUS—GOVERNMENT VIEW OF DECLARATION OF TURKISH CYPRIOT STATE

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, my question is also for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In light of the recent unilateral declaration by Turkish Cypriots of a separate state in Cyprus while negotiations were going on between Turkish and Greek Cypriots, will the government of Canada express its disapproval of this action based as it is on military force and a defiance of the unanimous resolution of the United Nations Security Council on November 1 which called for speedy withdrawal of all foreign armed troops, and the continuation of negotiations with a view to reaching a free and mutually acceptable settlement?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the government of Canada has learned with concern of the statement by the Turkish Cypriots on that island. We have, as you know, considerable peacekeeping obligations there and for that reason have attempted to avoid taking sides. We have urged the parties to negotiate however, and of course formal negotiations began earlier this year. There can be no doubt that the announcement made by the Turkish Cypriots must be regarded as a serious setback to the success of those negotiations. I might add to my hon. friend that we must note that the Turkish Cypriots have not gone beyond asking for a federated state, and therefore the Canadian policy of supporting the independence and territorial integrity of Cyprus has not been breached by this statement. I do, however, regard it as a serious setback to the success of the negotiations. I believe that now all countries must urge the two parties on the island to resume negotiations, even though this complicating circumstance has intervened.

Mr. Brewin: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I should like to ask the minister whether the setting up of a separate state entirely outside the negotiations is a prelim-

[Mr. Rompkey.]

inary move toward the partition and destruction of the integrity of the Republic of Cyprus?

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, the statement itself does not constitute a request for partition or for an independent state. To that extent, it meets the concern of my hon. friend and to that extent it ought to be greeted with a certain amount of satisfaction.

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[Translation]

BILINGUALISM**SUGGESTION UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE EMPLOYEES BE GRANTED BONUS—GOVERNMENT POSITION**

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a question to the President of the Treasury Board.

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Saint-Denis): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a supplementary.

Mr. La Salle: May I go on with my question, Mr. Speaker? Considering that since last Thursday the Unemployment Insurance Commission offices on Montreal island refuse to answer in English, that employees classified as French unilingual must answer many inquiries made in English and also that those employees have asked to be entitled to the 7 per cent bonus since they must give information in both languages, can the minister now say whether he is willing to comply with the request?

Hon. Jean Chrétien (President of Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, the government policy on the bonus for bilingualism does not apply to this category of employees, but to a special category of secretaries, here in the House of Commons and in Ottawa, who receive this bonus. We are not projecting to extend this bonus to other categories of federal public servants. I could not agree to this demand, and I hope the employees concerned will do their duty and answer government customers in both official languages.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Victoria.

Mr. Prud'homme: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege.

Mr. Speaker: I shall recognize the hon. member later, but for the moment, the hon. member for Victoria has the floor.

[English]

The hon. member for Victoria.

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NATIONAL DEFENCE**ALLEGED DESIGNATION OF CANADA TRUST TO PRESENT RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN TO MEMBERS OF FORCE—GOVERNMENT POSITION**

Mr. Allan B. McKinnon (Victoria): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Defence. Can the minister confirm that Canadian Armed Forces bases have