

Inquiries of the Ministry

RELATIONSHIP OF LEGISLATION TO REPORT ON FOREIGN OWNERSHIP OF CANADIAN COMPANIES

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. Would the minister say that the theme, shall we say, of this legislation, the maintenance of strong Canadian control of companies in the private sector, is a reflection of the report that will be brought forward by the Minister of National Revenue with regard to foreign ownership in Canada? Is this the vehicle that the government of Canada will choose in order to implement whatever recommendations the minister will make in his report?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): Not at all, Mr. Speaker. I think this legislation stands on its own and will provide an opportunity for the development of Canada, with an opportunity for Canadians to participate in the ownership and development of the resources of Canada.

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[Translation]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

QUEBEC—FIGHT AGAINST ORGANIZED CRIME

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Justice.

Has he received from his opposite number for Quebec, Mr. Choquette, a request for federal government legislation or powers enabling him to effectively combat the Mafia in the province of Quebec?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): Not as far as I know, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Laprise: May I ask a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker?

In view of the increase of organized crime in Quebec, does the Minister of Justice intend to take action to ensure that the Criminal Code is enforced as it should be?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): The Criminal Code is a well-known document, Mr. Speaker.

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[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

SALE OF ARMS BY FRANCE TO SOUTH AFRICA—CANADIAN POSITION

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Acting Prime Minister. In light of reported large new sales of French arms and equipment to South Africa, can the Acting Prime Minister advise if the government of Canada has expressed or will express to the government of France its concern about arms sales to an area which the Prime Minister the other day described as a potential Viet Nam?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I have already expressed in this House and in the United Nations, and I do so again, our opposition to

[Mr. Speaker.]

the sale of arms to South Africa, which is in accordance with the resolution of the Security Council on this question. We are urging all countries, without exception, to comply with that resolution.

Mr. Macquarrie: Mr. Speaker, I have read some of the debates at the United Nations. However, can the minister advise if by letter or personal representation the government has expressed its view to France on this very serious matter?

Mr. Sharp: No, I do not think there has been any occasion, Mr. Speaker. The only country to which we have made any representations is a fellow member of the Commonwealth and, as the House well knows, we made those representations of the basis of trying to avoid a rupture in the Commonwealth. I am sure my hon. friend agrees with that. That is the only occasion and the only country to which we have made representations of that kind.

USE BY FRENCH TROOPS OF CANADIAN ARMED FORCES FACILITIES

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask the Acting Prime Minister whether he is now in a position to advise the House on negotiations between Canada and France with respect to the use of Canadian Armed Forces facilities by French troops during the coming summer months?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I shall have to take that question as notice.

Mr. Forrestall: Mr. Speaker, on a question of privilege, this question has been asked several times in the House and we continue to get the same reply. As a supplementary I ask the Acting Prime Minister to take seriously his undertaking to investigate the matter so that the House may have some indication of the relationship between Canada and France with respect to armed forces training.

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CANADA ASSISTANCE PLAN

SUGGESTED INCREASE IN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S SHARE OF WELFARE COSTS

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the great increases in the costs of welfare being borne by the provinces and the municipalities as a result of the high unemployment existing in the country, is the federal government giving consideration to increasing its share of the cost of welfare that it bears?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, all I can advise the hon. member at this time is that should there be any change in the sharing formula under the Canada Assistance Plan it will be announced as a matter of policy in the House.