

[Translation]

AIR TRANSPORT

REQUEST FOR MAINTENANCE OF SERVICE TO FORT GEORGE,
QUEBEC

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Transport.

Can the minister advise the House whether he has received a letter signed by a number of residents from Fort George, Quebec, to the effect that Nordair Airlines have decided to discontinue their services to Fort George? Can the minister also advise the House whether he has contacted Nordair Airlines, and whether he can assure Fort George residents that general services, including the delivery of mail, as well as medical, and fresh food supply, will not be cancelled to this northern community?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I will verify whether I have received this letter, for I do not remember receiving it. However, I suggest that such an application for cancellation of service would not have been sent to the Minister of Transport, but to the Canadian Transport Commission, of which Mr. Benson is the president.

This is the body which is responsible for this decision. It is the CTC which decides whether to maintain the service or not. However, I am going to find out whether I have received the letter referred to by the hon. member.

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[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

STATEMENTS BY FRENCH MILITARY AUTHORITIES
CONCERNING BOARDING OF "GREENPEACE III"—SUGGESTION
GOVERNMENT ASK FOR DENIAL

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister regarding the *Greenpeace* incident. In view of statements made by officials high in the French government and denials by two ministers of the Crown, has this government asked the government of France to refute statements made by members of their armed forces regarding collusion between the French government and the government of Canada before the boarding of the *Greenpeace* in order to clear the air on this matter for the Canadian public?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, it should be cleared by the fact that we deny having made those statements.

BOARDING OF "GREENPEACE III" BY FRENCH AUTHORITIES—
SUGGESTION GOVERNMENT PROVIDE COUNSEL FOR MR.
MC TAGGART AT TRIAL

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Can the Prime Minister assure the House that the Canadian government will have counsel at Mr. McTaggart's side when his case comes to trial on May 12?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker, the government will not have counsel at Mr.

Oral Questions

McTaggart's side. If you have a supplementary, I will answer it.

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THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

POWERS OF BOARDS PROPOSED FOR MONITORING
CONSENSUS PROGRAM—POSSIBILITY OF PRICES AND
INCOMES CONTROLS

Mr. F. Oberle (Prince George-Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance. It is with regard to the board or boards the minister has proposed to set up to monitor the mystical consensus program. Will this board or boards be the authority which the government intends to use in the event the consensus process reveals the necessity for the implementation of a contingency plan, under which controls on further increases in prices and incomes will be legislated?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Oberle: What will be the functions of these boards? Will they just be another review board that will convey tidings of bad news, of the smell of rotten eggs, or will they have any authority?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I explained to the hon. gentleman's leader on Friday that the need for the existence of the boards and the terms of reference of those boards were part of the consensus process. We are currently talking about that with representatives of business, labour and other segments of the economy.

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INCOME TAX

ALLEGED CONFUSION CONCERNING INCOME FROM SICK
BENEFITS

Mr. Benno Friesen (Surrey-White Rock): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Revenue. Is the minister aware of the confusion of answers being given by staff in the Income Tax Department across the country concerning regulations relating to taxable income received from sick benefit funds?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of National Revenue): No, Mr. Speaker, but I will inquire into it.

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● (1440)

[Translation]

TRANSPORT

LOSS OF FISHING VESSELS ON WEST COAST—REQUEST FOR
REPORT

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport.