

Olympic Boycott

non-fisheries vessels, I think one in each case, or discouraged those vessels from coming into port. I think we will not be moving to take similar measures with respect to fishing vessels.

Mr. Crosbie: No, my representation is that the position stay exactly the same. I do not want the Secretary of State for External Affairs to misunderstand that, because this is of positive benefit to Canada and it would not bother the U.S.S.R. very much in any event. He has given me confirmation that the policy is unchanged, I gather.

Mr. Doug Anguish (The Battlefords-Meadow Lake): Madam Speaker, would the minister be prepared to table a list of those who are suffering the brunt of the sanctions imposed against the Soviet Union in achieving the boycott, or achieving success of the boycott to take the Soviets out of Afghanistan, and stop their aggression in that area? Would he be willing to table a list of those who are suffering the sanctions?

Mr. MacGuigan: Madam Speaker, I will certainly be prepared to write a letter to the hon. gentleman telling him what our over-all policy is, and he can make whatever disposition he pleases of that information.

Mr. Chris Speyer (Cambridge): Madam Speaker, this afternoon when there have been so many momentous statements by ministers I am sure it is a source of dismay to many members that the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) would not show more respect to this House by being here.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Madam Speaker: Would the hon. member ask his question?

Mr. Speyer: Is this not an important measure? Why isn't the Prime Minister here?

An hon. Member: He is busy working.

Madam Speaker: Order. Will the hon. member ask his question, please?

Mr. Speyer: My question is this. I wonder whether the minister can tell me precisely when he became convinced that the boycott would become effective, and what circumstances surrounded that decision when he knew in his own mind and made a recommendation to the cabinet that the boycott would become effective? The second part of my question is this. Can the minister envisage circumstances where international conduct is so outrageous that we, as a country, would be willing to take independent action, notwithstanding what the effect might have been in Russia, and does not the invasion of Afghanistan fall within that category?

Mr. MacGuigan: Madam Speaker, may I say first that the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) did come into the lobby this afternoon with the intention of being here for the statements of both my colleague and myself. He left when he found that the rather lengthy debate on the question of privilege raised by the hon. member was being prosecuted.

There are empty seats on all sides of the House, and I would not like to find fault with anyone for not sitting through the length of this afternoon's proceedings.

I do not know what kind of psychological test the hon. member's question holds for me, but I am quite prepared to say that it was this past weekend in Salisbury, Zimbabwe, when I had the opportunity of discussing this issue with something like 20 or 30 states that I had the opportunity of coming to a firm conclusion that an Olympics boycott would be effective. I may say that not the least important of the factors was the discussion I had with the West German foreign minister, at considerable length, during which we were able to co-ordinate our strategies for this boycott.

Madam Speaker: I still have three questioners. If hon. members would like to limit themselves to one question each, perhaps I could not see six o'clock for a while and we will see if we can conclude this debate before we adjourn. The hon. member has had one question. I would like now to recognize the hon. member for Saskatoon East (Mr. Ogle).

Mr. Bob Ogle (Saskatoon East): Madam Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. MacGuigan). I was very happy to hear earlier today that he was preparing to accept a revision of the whole question of international aid, but, like the former questioner, I have great doubt that this can be done without a complete revision of the whole role of Canada in the international community. I should like to ask the minister whether he does not really believe that today Canada has to kind of come to a new vision of itself, because I do believe that the era we are living in, in the 1980s and the coming 1990s, and I hope we get that far, is quite different from a time when Canada made its foreign policy before. I was hoping he would be willing to accept the suggestion. How does he feel about the possibility of really and truly making a new accounting of ourselves and who we think we are at this time in the international community, through a revision?

Mr. MacGuigan: Madam Speaker, in the interest of time and because of the eloquence of the hon. member, I will undertake to consider his representation.

Mr. Arnold Malone (Crowfoot): Madam Speaker, I would like to bring to the mind of the hon. minister that on many numerous occasions the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) has said he doubted that a boycott would be successful. I would like to ask the minister whether he can assure the House today that the Prime Minister believes it can be successful, particularly when he said just last Friday that his personal view would be irrelevant on this question. Can he assure us that it is the personal view of the Prime Minister that the Prime Minister thinks this move will be successful.

Mr. MacGuigan: Madam Speaker, the hon. member should know that the personal views of ministers, including mine, are not really relevant. I am here stating government policy, policy which, as the leader of the government, is firmly embraced by the Prime Minister, and I would have to take exception to the