

question as notice and, as soon as I obtain the information, I will bring it to the Hon. Member's attention.

PROVISION OF FUNDING

Mr. George Henderson (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, there is nothing in the Estimates for that project. Is that an oversight in the budgetary process or is the project being delayed? I would like to have a response to that question, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Harvie Andre (Associate Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, I cannot give the exact number of projects we have on the go but it is in the hundreds.

In any event, the final decision on which will proceed this year, for Estimate purposes, must be in by October 31. As a consequence, the fact that it is not in the Estimates cannot be taken as absolute assurance that it will not be proceeded with this year.

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● (1200)

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

NICARAGUA—WOMEN KILLED IN AMBUSH BY CONTRAS—
UNITED STATES FUNDING

Mr. Dan Heap (Spadina): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister for External Relations. In Nicaragua recently Contra invaders financed by the United States ambushed a truck, killed four peasant mothers, wounded others, and killed a Swiss agronomist. Will the Minister publicly ask President Reagan to withdraw his request to Congress for \$100 million more to pay and arm the murderers of women, children, and civilians in Nicaragua?

[Translation]

Hon. Monique Vézina (Minister for External Relations): Mr. Speaker, the Canadian Government has already announced its policy concerning Nicaragua and Central America. I personally have had the opportunity to visit that country. We have a program which we apply very consistently and we continue to support the Contadora effort.

[English]

Mr. Heap: Mr. Speaker, that was not an answer to the question. I asked for a public statement of opposition to the funding of these murderers.

REQUEST FOR DEMILITARIZATION OF CENTRAL AMERICA

Mr. Dan Heap (Spadina): Mr. Speaker, since the Minister has visited the region and is, therefore, familiar with the support of the churches for the Nicaraguan Government in its opposition to the funding of the Contras, and the support of at least eight Governments in that area, will she join those Governments and churches in asking for the demilitarization

Point of Order—Mr. Kaplan

of Central America, including the withdrawal of American troops?

[Translation]

Hon. Monique Vézina (Minister for External Relations): Mr. Speaker, it is both the practice and tradition of the Mulroney Government to co-operate with volunteer organizations. We are also involved in various programs with Church organizations. I want to emphasize that the Canadian policy differs considerably from the American policy and that we have every intention of sticking to it.

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[English]

POINT OF ORDER

CORRECTION TO ANSWER DURING QUESTION PERIOD

Hon. Flora MacDonald (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order, this being the first opportunity to correct something I said during Question Period. During Question Period I said that in the vicinity of 50,000 new jobs had been created in the Province of Quebec since the election. That was a mistake. I should have said that 112,000 new jobs have been created.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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POINT OF ORDER

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Yesterday the Hon. Member for York Centre (Mr. Kaplan) raised a point of order which drew attention to an apparent breach of Standing Order 99(2), formerly 70(16), for those who have figured out the new numbering system.

The Standing Joint Committee on Regulations and Other Statutory Instruments requested a comprehensive response to its fourth report presented on October 17, 1985. The Standing Order provides that a comprehensive response should be tabled by the Government within 120 days of the presentation of a special committee report when such a request is made.

I must rule that the Hon. Member has raised a valid point of order, the Standing Order being quite clear. I simply indicate, therefore, that the Member has raised a point of order and this ruling will serve to draw the breach of the Standing Order to the attention of the Minister.

Mr. Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, could you give the House some guidance as to what happens to remedy this breach of the Standing Orders which you have noted?

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid that I cannot. The Hon. Member may wish to read the Standing Order. He will find that it is silent on that matter.