

Order Paper Questions

DSS—SECURITY

Question No. 1,488—**Mr. Oberle:**

1. How many full or part-time staff or operatives are employed by the Security Branch of the Department of Supply and Services?
2. What are the names of all private security agencies, such as the Corps of Commissionaires, or security branch of government defence firms who have been screened by, or are in constant contact with, the Security Branch and, in each case, how many staff are employed full or part-time?
3. Which of the firms conduct investigative or detective functions and under what legislative authority are such services rendered?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services):

1. Staff: 51 Operatives: Nil

2. (a) The security branch of the Department of Supply and Services does not screen security agencies such as the corps of commissionaires. (b) The security branch of the Department of Supply and Services is responsible for ensuring that departmental and industrial employees engaged in classified contracts are security cleared in accordance with established practices and procedures through the national security agency. The branch does not have an investigative role. Insofar as private guard companies are concerned, the security branch provides a contract quality control function for all private security guard contracts issued by the Department of Supply and Services in the National Capital Region. At the present time, there are 12 contracts with the following companies: National Protective Service Company Limited; General Protection Company Limited; Grant Security Services; S.I.S. Protection Company; Dustbane Security Services; Universal Investigation Services Limited. The numbers and identity of the companies engaged in classified contracts vary with the contracts issued. A list of such contracts issued by the Department of Supply and Services is published weekly. The number of staff employed full or part-time by such industries is unknown.

3. Nil.

EXPORT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Question No. 1,515—**Mr. Forrestall:**

1. Did the government announce in June or July 1976, a \$17.1 million loan by the Export Development Corporation to Panama for the construction of a container terminal in Colon, Panama and, if so, on what date is the project to be (a) completed (b) operational?
2. What amount of the loan has been advanced to date?
3. On what date will the loan be completely retired?
4. What is the rate of interest to be paid on the loan?
5. Have gantry cranes for the facility been ordered and, if so, who is the supplier?

Mr. Bernard Loiselle (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): In so far as Export Development Corporation is concerned: 1. Yes, on June 30, 1976. (a) Completion date early in 1979. (b) Operational date is not yet available.

2. By tradition and as a matter of commercial principle Crown corporations have not been required by parliament to answer detailed questions on their administration and opera-

[Mr. Danson.]

tion, and in the case of Export Development Corporation, the Export Development Act places the responsibility for such matters on its board of directors.

3. The loan will be completely retired July 1, 1989.

4. Please see the answer to part 2.

5. That aspect of the project is one of the commercial features within the province of the exporter, since the exporter awards sub-contracts.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker: The questions enumerated by the parliamentary secretary have been answered. Shall the remaining questions be allowed to stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[Translation]

CRIMINAL CODE

MEASURE RESPECTING LANGUAGE USED IN COURT TRIALS

The House resumed, from Tuesday, May 2, consideration of the motion of Mr. Basford that Bill C-42, to amend the Criminal Code, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa-Vanier): Mr. Speaker, I am glad to have this opportunity to make some remarks on Bill C-42, an Act to amend the Criminal Code, aimed at guaranteeing the language rights of Canadians before the courts. I will try, Mr. Speaker, to be as brief as possible and at the same time to restrain my enthusiasm and my pleasure in taking part in a debate I feel is almost historical.

I have been interested for a long time in matters dealing with linguistic equality, and hon. members will remember that once I did introduce Bill C-210 which would have given the accused the right to be heard and tried in his own official language. As it often happens, some hon. members on the other side, particularly Progressive Conservatives, found the bill untimely and killed my private bill.

So I am very pleased, Mr. Speaker, along with all fair-minded Canadians, to see that the government has kept its promise and introduced in this session a piece of legislation, Bill C-42, to amend the Criminal Code and give all Canadians both French- and English-speaking, the right to be tried in their own official language without the help of an interpreter. As I said earlier, this bill is one step further towards linguistic equality. In the minds of many Canadians, this bill confirms the most fundamental right in any society, namely the right of