

Order Paper Questions

Hon. Pierre De Bané (Minister of Fisheries and Oceans): Mr. Speaker, I would like to say to the Hon. Member that the situation is monitored on a daily basis. I receive a daily report from our marketing directorate. I do not think it is conducive to the public interest to give a full, detailed report of the situation.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Deans: I think you will regret that one.

Mr. De Bané: I do not think if you really have the interest— obviously you are not from a fishing area, Mr. Deans—

Mr. Speaker: Will the Minister please address the Chair?

Mr. De Bané: Today I had the Davis Report. All of the reports we have show that no buyer has cancelled any contract. On the other hand, because my hon. friend has a very important role as official spokesman for his Party on fisheries, I can arrange for him to have on a confidential basis a detailed report of the situation by my Department's officials. I do not think it is conducive every day in the House to say that we spoke to Mr. So-and-So in this or that company. We can give the Hon. Member a detailed report on the situation of each company. I am sure he is as dedicated as I am to the well-being of our fishermen and our fishing industry. I do not think it is proper for the Minister to give a report every day of where it is at.

Mr. Speaker: A short supplementary.

Mr. Crouse: Mr. Speaker, I thank the Minister for that answer. But in light of the information that has been conveyed to me, it is obvious that his own staff are not giving him the correct facts on this issue. I will accept a briefing.

NEWFOUNDLAND FISHING INDUSTRY

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, I have a short supplementary question for the Minister. Since the restructuring of the Newfoundland fishing industry is simply not working, it has done nothing to date to help the 40,000—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. With respect to the hon. Member, this is hardly a supplementary to his original question. The Chair recognized him, bearing in mind we have gone beyond the normal hour for Question Period. If the Hon. Member has a supplementary question, could it please be short?

Mr. Crouse: The sealers now have no income in Newfoundland, which is directly related to the first question. What does the Minister intend to do to assist not only those fishermen, but those in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island? These are independent companies that are being threatened by the situation at the present time.

Hon. Pierre De Bané (Minister of Fisheries and Oceans): Mr. Speaker, I do recognize the great interest of my friend in

the situation. I reiterate to him my offer to give him a full briefing of the situation as of today. We can keep both the Hon. Member for South Shore and the spokesman for the New Democratic Party informed on a confidential daily basis, if they want. I think we would be shooting ourselves in the foot if we echo daily every piece of information that appears in the press. I can tell the Hon. Member that several companies have reported increased sales to me. However, I reiterate my offer because I know my hon. friend is a very responsible spokesman.

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PETITIONS

MR. FRIESEN—TESTING OF CRUISE MISSILE ON CANADIAN SOIL

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that the petition presented by the Hon. Member for Surrey-White Rock-North Delta (Mr. Friesen) does not meet the requirements of the Standing Orders as to form.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

PETITIONS

MR. OGLE—TESTING OF U.S. NUCLEAR DEVICES

Mr. Bob Ogle (Saskatoon East): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition given to me by mothers and children from Ontario and other parts of Canada to the Honourable the House of Commons of Canada in Parliament assembled. The petition of the undersigned residents of Canada, who now avail themselves of their ancient and undoubted right thus to present a grievance common to your petitioners in the certain assurance that our Honourable House will therefore provide a remedy, humbly sheweth that at this critical period in a new cycle of nuclear weapons which could be unverifiable, Canada must give strong support to those parties in European governments who are refusing to accept the Cruise and Pershing missiles.

Wherefore the undersigned, your petitioners, humbly pray and call upon the Parliament of Canada to cancel any agreements for testing US nuclear devices or their delivery systems.

And as in duty bound your petitioners will ever pray.

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[Translation]

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)