[Translation]

NATIONAL SECURITY

PRESUMED CONNECTION BETWEEN INTERPOL AND SOME NAZIS—REQUEST FOR AN INQUIRY

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Solicitor General, I shall put a question to the right hon. Prime Minister.

As today is Easter's eve for the Jewish community and also because the Solicitor General has received over 30 telegrams from them with regard to an Interpol inquiry as well as a brief proving ties between the Nazis and Interpol, does he consider that the time has come to order an in-depth inquiry into the connections between the Nazis, Interpol and the Jews?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I know absolutely nothing about the telegrams mentioned by the hon. member; in addition, I doubt that Interpol, the Nazis or the Jews fall under the jurisdiction of the department of the minister concerned. As for the Jewish community, which might be interested in this matter, I take this opportunity to say to it, "Shalom".

Mr. Rondeau: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary for the Prime Minister.

Because Canada is a member of Interpol, and because Jews have on many occasions complained about Nazi control over Interpol, would the right hon. Prime Minister look into this matter in depth, in view of the absence of the Solicitor General of Canada.

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I will take note of the question; if the hon. member gets in touch with the minister, he will get information on which to launch his study.

[English]

COMBINES

POSSIBLE TAKE-OVER OF ARGUS CORPORATION BY POWER CORPORATION—APPLICABILITY OF PROVISIONS OF BILL C-2—EFFECT ON COMMUNICATIONS

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. First of all, would the Prime Minister assure me that he will re-read Bill C-2 about which he is so proud and agree that the provisions of that bill in no way would touch the Power Corporation-Argus Company so far as the existing clauses of the bill are concerned? Would the Prime Minister agree to do that for us at least?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, that would appear to be a rhetorical question. The only reason for it is that the hon. member did not listen to my reply. I was talking about step two of the competition bill which we would reach only if stage one is accepted by the House with some expedition.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yes, Mr. Speaker, if the Prime Minister and this country would be prepared to accept Bill C-2. But in any event, I wonder whether the Prime Minister has asked the Secretary of State and the

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Minister of Communications to look into particular aspects with regard to communications and the effect there might be if this takeover bid was successful.

Mr. Trudeau: No, Mr. Speaker, I did not refer to the Secretary of State, but this is one of the aspects which did catch my attention and that is why I drew it to the attention of my officials and asked them to look into the matter in consultation with other departments.

(1450)

ESTIMATES

METHOD OF DEALING WITH ITEMS RELATED TO SECURITY— POSSIBILITY OF PUTTING ITEMS IN MISCELLANEOUS VOTES

Mr. Harvie Andre (Calgary Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the President of the Treasury Board. In view of the disclosure by the Minister of State for Science and Technology that a number of security items are listed under unrelated headings in the annual estimates, will the minister tell the House which of the estimates are not accurate?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of State for Science and Technology and of Public Works offered hon. members of the opposition to meet them and give them some explanations. I think they should benefit from this opportunity.

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am prepared to see the hon. member for Calgary Centre on a supplementary question. However, questions about the estimates and their content really ought to be directed to ministers in the standing committees when the estimates are being examined.

Mr. Andre: I certainly do not want to challenge the judgment of the Chair, but I feel that this goes beyond the usual interrogation conducted in committees into the details of the estimates, in that in committee we were informed that certain votes in the estimates could, in fact, include items dealing with security matters and therefore the accuracy of the estimates could be questioned. This opened the question of whether, in fact, the House can be asked to judge. Would the minister consider including such security items in the annual estimates if they could be isolated from the main estimates as, for example, miscellaneous votes.

[Translation]

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Speaker, yesterday the minister gave an explanation that I think is very good. It would not be in the interest of Canada to give any more details than we are giving now.