

*Oral Questions*

**Hon. Gerry Weiner (Minister of State (Immigration)):** Mr. Speaker, this year Canada will choose 20,000 refugees under our Refugee and Humanitarian Program. We will contribute over \$170 million to help them resettle through aid to international humanitarian agencies and food programs.

The third part of the program ensures that every individual who comes to our shores and our doors will be given a chance to demonstrate that they fear persecution. However, those with manifestly unfounded claims, those who have been asked to leave the country in the last 90 days, and those subject to removal, cannot be allowed to make a refugee claim, because they should be applying under the regular immigration laws of the country.

## REFUGEE BOARD PROCEDURES—LISTING OF SAFE COUNTRIES

**Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West):** Mr. Speaker, my question is also for the Minister of State for Immigration and is also with regard to the Government's new refugee legislation. The Government has today adopted a Pontius Pilate attitude of washing its hands of genuine refugees and irresponsibly passing the problem to another country. This will only serve to aggravate the world phenomenon and trigger other countries to do likewise in a regressive fashion, in turn bringing more pressure to countries like Canada.

Given that the refugee board should have been independent and non-adversarial, why did the Minister give ultimate discretionary authority to Cabinet to design a list of so-called safe countries which will dictate who will access the system? Why were an immigration adjudicator and a lawyer present at the pre-screening process and the oral hearing which made it an adversarial process between the claimant and the department?

**Hon. Gerry Weiner (Minister of State (Immigration)):** Mr. Speaker, there are 15 million refugees in the world and 100 million economic migrants. Our help to the real refugees must continue unabated. This is a real world rather than a theoretical world. It requires common sense solutions. We must be realistic, not naive. We need objective criteria, not subjective opinion.

● (1425)

**Mr. Marchi:** In his speech to immigrants, the Minister said: "If I do not deliver a good policy I will throw away my keys to the limousine". He had better throw away those keys and be ashamed of himself today.

## APPEAL SYSTEM PROCESS

**Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West):** Mr. Speaker, why did the Minister give the system such a shamefully weak appeal procedure, with leave to the Federal Court, which only deals

with arguments on legal process and not on the facts and circumstances of the individual? Why could people be deported during the appeal and until it is considered, thus endangering the lives of those individuals and going against the spirit of Section 7 of the Charter of Rights protecting individuals, thus making it unconstitutional?

**Hon. Gerry Weiner (Minister of State (Immigration)):** Mr. Speaker, we are introducing a system that has streamlined processing. There are quality oral hearings in front of independent refugee board members. There are appeals by leave to the Federal Court.

This Government does not need to apologize for its contribution or anything we are doing. In the past year we contributed over \$53 million to international humanitarian agencies. That is double what the previous Government committed in 1982.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Weiner:** In addition, we are spending at least double what the previous Government spent to settle, integrate and accommodate these new people in our country.

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## ENERGY

PROPOSED PURCHASE OF DOME PETROLEUM BY AMOCO  
CANADA—LETTER REPORTEDLY SENT TO POTENTIAL  
COMPETITORS

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. It concerns the proposed takeover of Dome Petroleum by the Amoco Corporation. In the past the Minister has assured the House that this deal was not finalized and that there were options other than the takeover by Amoco. The Minister knows that that corporation has had a bad reinvestment record in Canada and has now publicly refused, even if it is able to take over Dome, to sell shares to Canadians.

The Minister is no doubt aware that Amoco has sent threatening letters to companies that potentially would offer a counter bid. Is he aware of the content of those threatening letters from Amoco and, if so, will he tell us what he has done about it, as the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources?

[Translation]

**Hon. Marcel Masse (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Mr. Speaker, it was obvious from the very beginning that the various stages of negotiations between Dome, its creditors and potential owners would be a lengthy process that could take several weeks and possibly even several months.