

*Oral Questions**[English]*

**Ms. Audrey McLaughlin (Yukon):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the minister.

The minister is saying that a debate in Parliament on whether Canada goes to war would be a delay. The minister is not prepared to give us any details on whether the economic sanctions are working, which is the reason we went to the Middle East in the first place.

Why will the Secretary of State for External Affairs not give this House some indication of the information that he has on whether or not economic sanctions are working?

Surely the people of Canada have the right to know why we are talking about going to war without having shown to the Canadian people whether or not the sanctions are working.

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I believe the hon. member was in her seat when I answered precisely that question from the member from Winnipeg. I do not know if she was in the House when she was in her seat, but I gave the answer. I will give it again. The answer is that the question about the effective sanctions has two elements. One is whether there is evidence that sanctions are changing the behaviour of Saddam Hussein. So far there is no evidence that sanctions are changing the behaviour of Saddam Hussein.

• (1430)

The other aspect is whether sanctions are being broadly supported by the international community. All the evidence is that they are. In part that is due to the existence of the naval blockade, and in part, the success of that blockade is due to the exemplary action of Canadians who are serving in that region. Of course, it is the position of the Government of Canada to give those sanctions time to work. Of course that is our position. Perhaps the hon. member would like to go back—I see you rising, Mr. Speaker, so I shall not continue.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

## UNEMPLOYMENT

**Mr. Len Hopkins (Renfrew—Nipissing—Pembroke):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Industry, Science and Technology.

Once again I bring to the attention of the government that industrial plant closures and cutbacks, along with major lay-offs in the forest industry have created very serious economic and human problems across the upper Ottawa Valley and eastern Ontario in general. Far more than 3,000 jobs have been lost after the gains and the losses have been balanced.

Will the minister give us a commitment today that his department will come forth with economic measures to assist eastern Ontario in a useful and practical way?

**Hon. William C. Winegard (Minister for Science):** Mr. Speaker, as we have said before, no one in this House is pleased when plants go down and when there is economic disruption. The hon. member knows what we need to do is to work with the various industry sectors to see what can be done with each of these industry sectors in terms of future development and to try and prepare a kind of business plan, if you like, for the future. We are doing this now.

I do not think there is much more that we can do as a government except pour more money in and that is not possible.

*[Translation]*

**Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary for the same minister.

Since January 1989, Cornwall has lost 1,100 jobs; Renfrew, 1,600; Hawkesbury, 250; and Alexandria, 325, including 100 layoffs at the Consoltex textile plant in the last two weeks. When will the government face up to its responsibilities? When will it give us a development program for Eastern Ontario? Do we all have to lose our jobs before we get anything?

*[English]*

**Hon. William C. Winegard (Minister for Science):** Mr. Speaker, as the Minister of Finance has said to this hon. gentleman many times, no one likes plant closures.