

Canada has already provided the UNCOE with a war crimes investigative unit, headed by Lt-Col. Kim Carter, to assist the Commission in gathering evidence. The war crimes investigation unit returned March 18th from a preliminary investigation of a mass grave site at Vukovar in Croatia.

Since January, Canada has convened meetings in Geneva of like-minded countries to urge them to provide assistance to the UNCOE and has been assured that other offers of assistance are forthcoming.

The UN is establishing a trust fund for the Commission and Canada will be the first contributor. The SSEA has already agreed in principle to contribute to the UNCOE fund and the amount of the Canadian contribution will be announced shortly.

NOVA SCOTIA

DEVELOPMENT OF COAL MINE IN PICTOU COUNTY — FEDERAL LOAN GUARANTEE

(Response to question raised by Hon. John B. Stewart on March 24, 1993)

On December 3, 1992, the federal government paid the Bank of Nova Scotia as requested under the terms of the loan guarantee. The federal government has an obligation to the Canadian taxpayers to attempt to recover as much of the loan guarantee as possible.

Having paid the Bank of Nova Scotia under its legal obligation, the federal government has replaced the bank as security holder for the Westray Mine, but not as the mine's owner. As such, the Government of Canada is entitled to recover on their assets.

It is premature to discuss the extent of recovery of this loan.

OFFICIAL RECORD

CORRECTION TO HANSARD

Hon. Efstathios William Barootes: Honourable senators, I rise on a point of privilege referring to the *Debates of the Senate* of March 23, at page 2903 in the first column. By my count, the correction applies to line 35 if we count every line, or to line 31 if we are counting only the small print. Recorded there is a statement made by myself in respect to additional support for Saskatchewan producers in view of the difficulties this year, as follows:

This is injecting some \$19 million into the Saskatchewan farm economy this year.

Unfortunately, that amount should not be \$19 million but \$90 million. It may have been my difficult diction, or it was heard wrongly, but the correct amount should be 90, and I ask that that be corrected, please.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

APPROPRIATION BILL NO. 1, 1993-94

SECOND READING

Hon. John Lynch-Staunton (Deputy Leader of the Government), moved second reading of Bill C-120, for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the public service of Canada for the financial year ending the 31st March, 1994.

He said: Honourable senator, Appropriation Bill No. 1, 1993-94 provides interim supply for the first three months of the fiscal year. The form of the bill is the usual one for interim supply bills. The 1993-94 Estimates were tabled in the Senate on February 25, 1993, and immediately referred to the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance.

[Translation]

This bill provides \$13.885 billion in appropriation which the government needs in order to fulfil its commitments until the end of June, while various committees study the Estimates.

A second Appropriation Act will be tabled before June 30, 1993, to release the rest of the funds in the Estimates.

[English]

This bill contains a general proportion of three-twelfths of all votes, plus additional proportions for some 36 votes. The additional proportions are required mainly to meet payments of a seasonal nature in some programs, to meet payments in accordance with some programs, and the need in other instances to make major payments before the end of June. I should point out that, as usual, in no case is Parliament being asked to pass the entire amount of a vote.

Hon. H. A. Olson: Honourable senators, in spite of being here on Parliament Hill for 35 or 36 years, I have no experience of what is usually done on these appropriation bills. I am told by some people that they just pass without a great deal of debate. Maybe that is the way it is.

In fact, however, we are being asked now to pass at least three-twelfths — and in some cases a little more — of \$161 billion, which is a fairly significant amount, of expenditures that we are being asked to provide in this interim appropriation bill. Surely we should have a little debate on \$35 billion or \$40 billion-worth of interim supply.

Nevertheless, I would like to know about the practice that has been followed in the past in this regard. I say very frankly