

Oral Questions

ing the cancellation of U.S. charter flights to Cuba and the cancellation of athletic exchange programs.

Since there is a split between the American and Canadian view of Cuban involvement in Zaire, will the Canadian government now revise its view and take similar steps to those taken by the Carter administration to pressure Cuba to get out of Africa.

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, first of all, I have not seen the report to which the hon. member refers; however, I am sure it is an accurate assessment. I do not think it reflects any split. I said yesterday that there was no hard evidence; certainly, the impression I wanted to convey was that there was no hard evidence—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Jamieson: I cannot answer and listen at the same time. Maybe the hon. member would give me the opportunity to answer him; then I will be glad to deal with a supplementary question.

I do not think there is any question that there are Cubans in Angola. Therefore, it is a reasonable assumption that there is some relationship between that and the activities in Zaire. I was simply stating the fact that it was not a proven situation and that a number of countries—among them, Great Britain, The Netherlands, Denmark and Belgium, to name just a few—at least five or six, made the point that it had not been specifically proven in the case of Zaire. That is not to say—I repeat—that anyone is condoning Cuban, Soviet or other interventions in Africa.

In terms of what the United States is now doing, I have had consultations with Secretary of State Vance. I repeat to the House what I said yesterday, that if there is any way, either through the Security Council or through other initiatives taken by the United States or other allies, whether they be in NATO or elsewhere, to end foreign interventions in Africa, we will be fully supportive of them and we will use whatever techniques appear to be most appropriate in our circumstances to reinforce that view.

Mr. Roche: Mr. Speaker, on the first point, Zbigniew Brzezinski, special adviser to the president, said:

Any sensible person who sees what is going on in Angola will reach a very obvious conclusion.

This relates to the Cuban involvement in Zaire. I want to ask the minister a supplementary question. Since Canada has provided \$13.3 million in aid to Cuba in the last three years, will the minister now formally terminate that aid, as distinct from just letting it run down, to enable Canada to go before the UN Security Council with some credibility in urging that body to give immediate study to the grave implications of Cuba having a total of 43,000 troops in 14 African nations?

Mr. Jamieson: Mr. Speaker, in the first instance, the hon. member uses a highly selective technique. He quotes Mr. Brzezinski without acknowledging that, of course, there is

[Mr. Roche.]

quite a substantial difference of opinion even within the U.S. administration. There have been a number of spokesmen, including the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, who have expressed a quite different view. However, that is beside the point in this regard.

In so far as speeding-up or terminating what is happening with relation to CIDA in Cuba is concerned, I will be glad to take a look at that. I am told that the amounts now are absolutely minimal and that, in fact, there would be grave difficulties and problems in so far as Canadians are concerned if we were to terminate abruptly. But I will take a look at it. Frankly, I do not think it is all that substantive in terms of the much more important declaration that I have made and the Prime Minister has made that we are not contemplating, now, giving any additional assistance of this kind to Cuba.

Mr. Paproski: We want our DC-8s back.

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FISHERIES**SALARIED POSITION FOR CHAIRMAN OF SALTFISH CORPORATION**

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, I direct my question to the Minister of Fisheries. In view of the report tabled in the House, in response to question No. 135, which stated that an assistant deputy minister of fisheries, now retired on full pension and appointed as chairman of the Canadian Saltfish Corporation, has been given \$62,750 worth of consulting contracts by the government within the past two years as a means of providing some money to him, I ask the minister whether he would seriously consider designating the chairmanship of the corporation as a salaried position so that the fishermen can see directly whether they are getting value for their money.

Hon. Roméo LeBlanc (Minister of Fisheries and the Environment): The fishermen might be happy to know that the salary paid to the chairman of the corporation is out of general funds, not out of the Canadian Saltfish Corporation's money which belongs to fishermen.

I recognize the difficulty of the position being unsalaried. Mr. Bradbury, having long-standing expertise in the area of saltfish, agreed to stay on as chairman at my request. He also undertook to work in the area of marketing, also at my request. In the future, I hope that if chairmen of corporations of this type are going to spend a great deal of time in that position, and not only preside at meetings, we might find a way to pay them out of the normal system.

Mr. Crouse: Mr. Speaker, did Mr. Bradbury's predecessor also receive an indirect salary in this manner and, if not, why is Mr. Bradbury, his wife, his two sons and his daughter, who are all officers of W. & R. Bradbury Holdings Incorporated, considered a special case?