

*Oral Questions***EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

NICARAGUA—CONTRA ATTACK ON CANADIAN AID VILLAGE

Mr. Roland de Corneille (Eglinton—Lawrence): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Right Hon. Secretary of State for External Affairs. When the Farmers for Peace first went to Macotal in Nicaragua two years ago to carry out a Canadian aid project they helped to rebuild the village which had been destroyed by the Contras. The Contras have now for the second time attacked this village, massacring, burning, looting, and kidnapping innocent civilians. This being clearly an act of terrorism, will the Minister now condemn the Contras as terrorists and immediately bring this matter under the category of terrorism before the United Nations?

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, perhaps the Hon. Member was absent the other day when that question was raised. I have given an answer to it in the House. I have been in touch with the United States Secretary of State to express my personal great concern about the attack to which he makes reference upon a project mounted by the Farmers for Peace Organization.

I have indicated to Secretary Shultz that I intend to raise the matter and discuss it with him more fully when I meet him either in Venice or Reykjavik. I have further indicated, in answer to a representation by a Member of the House, that upon my return from that trip I would be prepared to meet with the Hon. Member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce and the Hon. Member for New Westminster—Coquitlam to discuss if there would be further appropriate action for the House or for the Government to take.

COST OF REBUILDING PROJECT

Mr. Roland de Corneille (Eglinton—Lawrence): I thank the Minister for his reply, Mr. Speaker, except I was talking about condemning it as terrorism before the United Nations. I knew about the other actions. I asked specifically whether the Minister would be willing to bring this matter up as an act of terrorism and define it as such. Will the Secretary of State for External Affairs, for the purposes of being on the record before the House, guarantee that the money needed to rebuild the Farmers for Peace Project would be provided by CIDA? Will he ask the Americans to instruct their lackeys, the Contras, to release the four innocent villagers they kidnapped and put an end to their massacres of innocent civilians in their program of terror and intimidation?

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): I will consider the last two of those three representations, Mr. Speaker.

ENERGY

DOME PETROLEUM—PROPOSED PURCHASE BY AMOCO CANADA

Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex—Windsor): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Deputy Prime Minister. According to reports in a Calgary newspaper, an internal evaluation document by Amoco has concluded that there would be many lay-offs at Dome after a takeover, and Amoco itself has publicly admitted that, indeed, there would be lay-offs. Did the Government discuss these job losses with Amoco during recent meetings held and did the Government press Amoco to reject these lay-offs for the future?

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I think I would be correct in saying that that is not consistent with the information provided to us. I think quite the contrary is the case. I think the Hon. Member should consider the consequences of a collapse of Dome Petroleum, and such will be the case if a buyer is not found. Further, if the Amoco purchase is proceeded with, these would be things that would be taken into consideration during the over-all evaluation.

As I said, on the basis of the knowledge that I have and that I think the Minister has, that is somewhat inconsistent with what the Hon. Member is suggesting.

Mr. Langdon: Mr. Speaker, the public confirmation, which I understand has taken place, of lay-offs is unquestionable. It is a question of numbers where the newspaper in question has argued a large number and Amoco has said that the number would be smaller. There is no question that lay-offs will occur.

SHARES HELD BY DOME EMPLOYEES

Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex—Windsor): I have a supplementary question for the Deputy Prime Minister. Given that 5,000 to 6,000 Dome employees past and present have at this stage now devalued shares in Dome as their only pension funds, did the Government in its meetings also press Dome and Amoco to give these workers Amoco pension credits that would be equal to their years at Dome, as part of the takeover?

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I think it should be pointed out that Amoco, if a purchase is proceeded with, has announced that it would be prepared to reinvest something in the order of \$1 billion over the next five years. I do not know to whom the Hon. Member is talking.

The employees to whom I have spoken at Dome Petroleum clearly want this issue resolved and the sooner the better. They want security of the jobs. The best way to secure their jobs is to proceed with the transaction.

Mr. Langdon: And their pensions?