

developing private financing for this pipeline that gave rise to the need for government guarantees?

MR. HAIG: Well, I... Where is the questioner, I am sorry.

Q. Right here.

MR. HAIG: I am sorry. About government guarantees? I don't know the term.

Q. I am asking what commitment your government made to Canada about the building of the Northern Natural Gas Pipeline, keeping in mind the fact that it was the difficulty of developing private financing for this line that gave rise to the need for government guarantees to begin with?

MR. HAIG: I think the President addressed that issue in his speech in the Parliament this morning.

What we reiterated was the American assurance that we are going to seek as soon as possible the completion of the U.S. segment of this through private financing, and that is a reassurance and a restatement of our earlier assurances in this area.

Q. Do you assume that private financing will be available?

MR. HAIG: Well...

Q. And if not, what will you do?

MR. HAIG: Well, that is a question to be faced. It is not one that I am going to break new