

[English]

REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION

Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West): Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister is good at making speeches about ethnocultural Canadians across the country but when it comes time to—

Mr. Speaker: Order. The Hon. Member knows that the Minister to whom he has directed a question is not in the House. I think it is appropriate for a short supplementary, and a pointed one.

Mr. Marchi: Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the Prime Minister. I ask him once again if he will come to the defence of Canada's multiculturalism policy by seeking a clear and immediate resignation from the Vice-Chairman of this Council, and instruct his officials to conduct a full investigation so that the reputation of the Council can be fully restored and protected.

[Translation]

Hon. Benoît Bouchard (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the Minister responsible for Multiculturalism answered this question last week, and I think if he were in the House now, his answer would be the same.

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[English]

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DETROIT INCINERATOR—POLLUTION CONTROL DEVICES

Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor—Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the United States Environmental Protection Agency's incompetent bungling of its responsibilities with respect to the installation of decent pollution control devices on the giant Detroit incinerator, what specific representations has the Department of External Affairs made to the United States Government to do something about this serious threat to the health of the citizens of Windsor?

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, we have made several representations. The Hon. Member asks for a specific indication of those representations. He will understand that I will have to inquire to get that kind of specific detail, which I will do and present it to him.

REQUEST FOR REFERRAL TO INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION

Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor—Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, is the Secretary of State prepared to ask the United States Government for a joint reference to the IJC and, perhaps more usefully, following the recommendations coming out of the Shamrock agreement on air pollution, to ask the

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President to intervene personally to overcome this \$17 million barrier to decent pollution safety on a \$400 million incinerator, or will the Prime Minister be singing at the next Shamrock meeting: "When Irish eyes are tearing, sure the pollution steals your breath away."?

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, we on this side of the House consider that and other environmental questions to be very serious.

Mr. Blackburn (Brant): So do we.

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): They are not subject to trivializing verse.

Mr. Murphy: Are you insulting poets?

Mr. Crosbie: The NDP are no better when they rhyme.

Mr. Speaker: Order. Would the Minister please give the answer, and would Members on the other side ensure that he can give that answer.

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): Mr. Speaker, if it turns out that the best way to get a speedy solution to this question would be to refer it to the IJC, of course we would agree to that. If it turns out that another route would yield a better result, we will do that. I need not remind the House of Commons that this Government, through its representations on acid rain and other environmental questions, has already made more progress in our discussions with the United States than previous Governments did in several years.

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CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Mr. Bob Pennock (Etobicoke North): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Communications. Last week the Auditor General claimed that he could not offer a comment on the CBC's financial situation because of the deplorable state of its books and the loss of \$57 million. Since this is the first time that an Auditor General has been unable to report on the financial statement of a Crown corporation, will the Minister advise the House what initiatives she has taken or intends to take to investigate this apparent incompetency of the CBC management, above and beyond the audit which the CBC management itself has commissioned?

Hon. Flora MacDonald (Minister of Communications): Mr. Speaker, concern about the new financial management system of the CBC has been expressed by the Auditor General, by the Chairman of the CRTC, and indeed by others. I share those concerns. As the House will know, a task force of accountants and financial analysts, headed by Marcel Caron of Montreal,