

Adjournment Debate

to reduce its efforts regarding their operations. In addition, capital expenditures will be made, if necessary to keep the plants open. Prospective buyers will have to provide a firm operating plan to ensure that the plants have a realistic future in the industry.

In its petition on countervailing duties submitted to the U.S. Department of Commerce, the task force on North Atlantic fisheries indicated that the Government's investment in the Atlantic fisheries constituted a subsidy. There is some apprehension that this investment would give further weight to this argument.

[*English*]

We do not feel that this is the case, Mr. Speaker. In the past the United States has regarded Government equity investment as a subsidy in cases where there was no expectation of a commercial rate of return on the investment. The original

1983 investment was made on the basis of adequate returns forecast. As noted, there has as yet been no return due largely to unusual circumstances which could not be foreseen in 1983. A reasonable rate of return is expected on the investment being made now and on all the funds invested.

FPI's management and board of directors are aware that no further investment will be made and that they must manage the company with the resources in hand. There is no question of continuing equity infusions which could be considered a subsidy.

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The motion to adjourn the House is now deemed to have been adopted. Accordingly, the House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 2 o'clock p.m., pursuant to Standing Order 3(1).

The House adjourned at 6.31 p.m.
