

*Oral Questions***EXTERNAL AFFAIRS****TIBETANS—REASON FOR CHANGING PLACE OF BIRTH ON PASSPORT APPLICATIONS**

Mr. J. R. Ellis (Hastings): Mr. Speaker, I have a brief question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. After Tibet was taken over by communist China, a small contingent of Tibetans came to Canada, and the majority of them settled in Belleville. They have become extremely good citizens. I would like to ask the minister why when these Tibetans now apply for their passports, does the External Affairs Department arbitrarily change their place of birth from Tibet to China?

Mr. Speaker: I really think that is a question which ought to be put on the order paper.

* * *

TRANSPORT**EFFECT OF CLOSING SEAWAY ON SOYBEAN MEAL PRODUCERS**

Mr. John Wise (Elgin): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. On December 2 officials of the minister's department issued an order closing the seaway. This would be about three weeks in advance of the order normally being issued. One of the results has been that some 14,000 tons of soybean meal will not reach the export market. I would like to ask the minister if he is aware of the situation, and if so is there anything possible that can be done?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, the only order on December 2 was the closing of the further movement of ships upward into the seaway system which would, of course, have to return. We were aware of the fact that there were a great number of ships within the seaway and they would want to emerge. To this day, when ordinarily the seaway would officially close, there are some 87 vessels still caught and wanting to come through. It will take superhuman efforts by the seaway pilots and coast guard to get most of them out. It was the only course of wisdom to stop further vessels and thus adding to that number.

Mr. Wise: Mr. Speaker, this will certainly cause a very severe depression in prices. There is also a possibility that sales of soybeans from southern Ontario will cease for approximately a three-month period. I would like to ask the minister if he would make every attempt to see whether there are any vessels now in the system which might be utilized to move at least a portion of the 14,000 tons of soybean meal which is sitting in the port of Toronto to the export market?

Mr. Lang: I am sure that the people with the soybeans will be looking for those empty vessels in the seaway, if there are any, and they should be able to make such arrangements. I hope the hon. member does agree that it would not help the situation to allow a vessel to go in, be loaded and then to be frozen inside and not be able to get out again.

[Mr. Gillespie.]

INDUSTRY**TRIDENT AIRCRAFT—REASON FOR DELAY OF FEDERAL AID—POSSIBILITY OF TAKEOVER BY GRUMAN OR CANADAIR**

Mr. Bob Brisco (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In light of the fact that British Columbia Development Corporation advised the minister's office on September 15 that they had fulfilled their obligations with reference to Trident Aircraft, and in light of the fact that up until yesterday they had not had the courtesy of a reply to their phone calls and Telex's, has the minister decided whether or not he is going to live up to the department's obligations to provide \$5 million to Trident Aircraft as arranged by the former minister of industry, trade and commerce?

Hon. Jack H. Horner (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): My department has been in touch with Trident Aircraft and we require them to suggest that they have 25 credit-worthy applicants for their airplane with 10 per cent down, and then we will give them greater assistance.

Mr. Brisco: Mr. Speaker, it would appear on the surface that the minister has now changed the rules by which British Columbia Development Corporation and Trident are supposed to play the game. May I ask the minister if he is aware of any efforts by Gruman and Canadair to take over Trident Aircraft. If so, is the department involved?

Mr. Horner: Mr. Speaker, Gruman and Canadair are doing a market survey for the Trident aircraft to see whether there is a market for them.

* * *

AIRPORTS**REQUEST FOR REPORT ON SECURITY MEASURES**

Mr. Bill Clarke (Vancouver Quadra): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. In view of the great interest and concern created by recent skyjackings and bombings of scheduled airliners, I want to ask a two-part question concerning airport security in Canada. First I would like to ask about differences in levels of security in different cities in Canada, for example one can undergo a detailed—

Mr. Speaker: In light of the time limitation could the hon. member ask his question.

Mr. Clarke: Mr. Speaker, my question is what measures are being taken to monitor the inspections that are being carried out to be sure that Canadians are getting proper protection from this costly service? Secondly, would he also tell the House if any attempts are currently being made to determine if dangerous materials are being carried in passengers' baggage in aircraft holds?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, the security system is being monitored, and every effort is