

Saint-Hyacinthe, could the Prime Minister assure the House that the Saint-Bonaventure disaster victims can count on immediate assistance from the federal government, through all its departments concerned?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, as indicated by the hon. member, the House has agreed to the motion of the hon. member for Drummond that the government should assist as much as possible the disaster victims of Saint-Bonaventure. I should like merely to remind the House that the federal government is always willing to help. There is a procedure we must follow whenever the province of Quebec or some other province submits an application in respect of a disaster area. There exist all sorts of means to assist disaster victims. It is the responsibility of the hon. member for Drummond, within which the disaster area is situated, to see that the Quebec government submits a formal application to the federal government.

Mr. Wagner: Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion.

Has the minister received a request for assistance from the Quebec government and if not has he already taken some steps to help that disaster area?

[English]

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I have not been in my office for a couple of hours. Before that, there certainly had not been a representation, which I think is understandable. I suspect the province would want some time to assess the damage. I will be glad to do whatever I can in conjunction with other departments and the province to see what we can do to assist in that area. I might point out there is a disaster formula program which, I believe, is administered by other departments of government. However, we will certainly supplement those efforts if we are asked.

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ENERGY

PROPOSED FEDERAL FEASIBILITY STUDY OF ENRICHED URANIUM PLANT AT JAMES BAY

Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Now that the federal government has decided to proceed with its own feasibility study of an enriched uranium plant in the James Bay area, will the minister tell the House what aspects will be looked into by the federal study that he feels were not dealt with by the Canadif report to which the government has access?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, the conversations are not completed with the province of Quebec with respect to a mutual study of this question. The important concerns that we feel should be studied are firstly with regard to the suitability of the diffusion process for the purpose of uranium enrichment. As the time for the centrifugal process comes with, of course, much lower cost, does diffusion

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still represent the best method of achieving this? What would be the impact of this particular development if it were to go ahead on the availability of energy, not just in the province of Quebec but within an eastern grid, which is one of the objectives of this government? What would be the impact of this kind of investment on availability of funds and of real resources, such as equipment and manpower, compared to the other demands that will occur throughout Canada to meet energy needs and, above all, what will be the availability of foreign as opposed to Canadian uranium to be serviced by such a plant so that there will not be in the future any insistence on a higher level of Canadian exports of enriched uranium take place than we regard as within the national interest from the standpoint of the reserve formula.

PROPOSED ENRICHED URANIUM PLANT AT JAMES BAY—REQUEST FOR TABLING OF CANADIF FEASIBILITY STUDY

Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, I thank the minister for his reply. Since on July 11 the minister undertook to inquire if the parties involved in the Canadif study were prepared to have it made public, is he now in a position to make this available to members of the House of Commons? If not, when does he anticipate being able to do so?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): I am sorry, Mr. Speaker. I apologize to the hon. member. The inquiry has been made. I cannot report this morning on the response or if indeed there has been a response. I will inquire about a response.

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AIR TRANSPORT

CRASH OF PANARCTIC AIRCRAFT—REQUEST FOR FURTHER INQUIRY

Mr. Stan Schellenberger (Wetaskiwin): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport with regard to the Panarctic airplane crash. Will the minister request that another inquiry be sought in Alberta so that the co-pilot and flight engineer may be subpoenaed to attend and this whole matter can be cleared up?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I will study this question and give an answer to the hon. member.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

PUBLIC SERVICE

TABLING OF FOURTH REPORT OF ADVISORY GROUP ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I should like to table, in both official languages,