

MR. HALTON: A supplementary, sir. Did the Carter letter of last year not talk about the possibility of U.S. Government intervention to make that commitment -- a commitment that doesn't seem to have been apparent yesterday?

A. The only action by the U.S. Government that I can recall was to perhaps suggest to Congress that they facilitate an amendment -- I believe it is to the anti trust law -- to permit the producers to also finance the transmission, and to my understanding, this administration would take the same -- I am not of course speaking for them, but when General Haig said that they would facilitate in any way they could, by government action, the private financing, I understand him to mean the same thing as the Carter administration.

ROBERT DOUGLAS (Canadian Press): Prime Minister, last year, when you were meeting with President Lopez Portillo, you came out with an agreement that having a trilateral meeting with the Mexican and American leaders was not in the best interests of either of your countries, and this week, yesterday, you were saying that you proposed such an idea in discussions with President Reagan.

What has changed your mind?

A. I haven't changed my mind. I think there is perhaps a misunderstanding on what I proposed and what some people think ^{that} President Reagan was saying during his campaign. He was talking about what is known in Canada as continentalism, and we saw that as perhaps a dangerous policy as regards the management of our resources, and probably the Mexicans the same thing. And certainly when I met President Portillo last spring,