

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Stanfield: In view of the general nature of Premier Kosygin's statement about the degree of mutual understanding in parts of the world where peace is violated, I wonder whether this is an indication that the government of Canada has informed Premier Kosygin that Canada shares Russia's view with regard to the border dispute between Russia and the People's Republic of China?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, this subject was not raised, either by ourselves or by the Soviet Union. Therefore I am not in a position to answer that question.

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Does the government intend to express its regret to those people and organizations engaged in peaceful protest in Ottawa during the last few days who Premier Kosygin, the guest of the government, at a press conference described as "riff-raff"?

DISCUSSION WITH PREMIER KOSYGIN OF POSSIBLE
EMIGRATION OF SOVIET JEWS TO CANADA

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Prime Minister with reference to the comments of the Soviet premier concerning the emigration of Jews from the Soviet Union and the difficulties that he envisioned would be created for the Soviet government in regard to increasing the number of those who would bear arms in Israel. Did the Prime Minister or any member of his government express to the Soviet premier a willingness to increase emigration possibilities for Jewish people in the Soviet Union who might wish to come to Canada?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): This point was not stressed, Mr. Speaker. I believe the Soviet Union knows Canada's immigration policy and there was no particular occasion to raise this matter. Nor have representations on that score been made to me. I think the representations that I received had more to do with emigration from the Soviet Union to Israel and also the question of the reunification of families, which is distinct from emigration.

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): In view of the fact that the Soviet premier did express at least on one occasion, if not more, that difficulty did exist in regard to increasing Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union, would the Prime Minister or one of his ministers agree to look into this matter further so as to relieve the concern of many Canadian citizens about the inability of Jewish citizens in the Soviet Union to emigrate from that country?

Mr. Trudeau: I will consider that request.

INQUIRY AS TO REPORT ON FOREIGN INVOLVEMENT IN
CANADIAN ECONOMY

Mr. David Anderson (Esquimalt-Saanich): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact the Brezhnev doctrine, or an adaptation thereof, has been adopted by Senator Kennedy, the front-running contender for the United States presidency, namely, that in view of close relations between the United States and another

state the U.S. has the right to intervene in the internal affairs of another state, may I ask the Prime Minister whether or not we can expect an early report from the Minister of National Revenue on the subject of foreign involvement in the Canadian economy?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, we can expect an early statement on this subject, though its connection with the Brezhnev doctrine is fairly tenuous. But I do want to reassure the hon. member that we will be making a statement soon.

DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER AND PREMIER
KOSYGIN ON EMIGRATION FROM RUSSIA AND RIGHTS OF
ETHNIC GROUPS—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Prime Minister to return to the question of the discussions he had with Mr. Kosygin concerning the matter of emigration from the Soviet Union and also the question of the rights of Jews and other cultural groups in the Soviet Union. Is the Prime Minister in a position to make a public statement or tell the House anything in addition to what we learned in the meeting of the committee yesterday morning?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker. The statements made by Mr. Kosygin in the committee, and, indeed, repeated in part at the press conference, were more or less in the same form as the statement he made to me, although he did not elaborate to me on statistics as he did, I believe, in the statement made to the committee of the House. However, it was generally couched in the same terms, namely, that he did not recognize that there were particular forms of discrimination against any of the Soviet people. He explained in what circumstances some Jews were not given the facilities to emigrate to Israel, but he stated that generally, and we concurred from the knowledge we have, there has been vastly increased emigration from the Soviet Union to Israel in the past little while, and I expressed the hope that this would continue.

On the problem of reunification of families, I pointed out very carefully to him that I was raising this matter merely on a humanitarian basis and that, as with other subjects, I was not trying to interfere in the internal affairs of their country but I was appealing to him on a humanitarian basis to further the cause of those who had made application for the reunification of families. I attempted somewhat to see if there were any reasons of policy or of doctrine as to why this subject had not met with more notable success and he assured me that there were not. It was essentially a matter of processing these names, of contacting the people and getting them through the bureaucracy and, in some cases, of discovering that those who had been applied for as subject, for reunification did not always want, when they were reached, to be reunited with the people on this side who wanted to be reunited with them. He said that there were some occasions when this happened. Generally, however, he expressed regret that the matter had taken some little time. He assured me that the names were in the works

[Mr. Trudeau.]