

Order Paper Questions

way by the government through the House procedures. Why did they turn down our motion yesterday?

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity. Is the hon. member rising on a question of privilege?

Mr. Leggatt: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I should like to correct the obvious misunderstanding of the House leader for the Conservative Party in indicating that the motion presented yesterday to the House was from the Conservative Party. That motion was moved by me and was from the New Democratic Party which is very willing to see Bill C-27 pass all stages right away.

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

[Text]

GUINEA-BISSAU INDEPENDENCE

Question No. 7—**Mr. Rowland:**

What measures has Canada recently taken in an effort to persuade Portugal to grant independence to the country of Guinea-Bissau and the other African territories which Portugal claims as its own?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): The Canadian government has expressed its conviction on numerous occasions that Portugal should grant self-determination to all its African territories. This viewpoint was conveyed directly to the Portuguese Foreign Minister during the December 1973 NATO Ministerial Meeting in Brussels. The Canadian attitude was repeated in very clear terms during the recent sessions of the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence.

DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION OF GUINEA-BISSAU

Question No. 9—**Mr. Rowland:**

Is it the intention of the government to acknowledge, through diplomatic recognition or other means, that the country of Guinea-Bissau has effectively achieved independence from Portugal and, if not, for what reason?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Canadian practice is to grant recognition to sovereign states which have governments able to exercise effective control over the territory which they claim to represent and who are able to discharge their international obligations. The Canadian government is prepared to recognize Guinea-Bissau when the Canadian Government is assured that these criteria have in fact been met.

[Mr. Bell.]

UIC—PRESENCE OF THIRD PARTIES DURING INTERVIEWS WITH CLAIMANTS

Question No. 238—**Mr. Ellis:**

Has the Unemployment Insurance minute 69-121, regarding attendance of third parties during interviews of claimants by investigators, been certified by the Deputy Minister of Justice?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Unemployment Insurance Commission Minute 69-121 is the record of an administrative decision, which does not require certification by the Deputy Minister of Justice. Solicitors of the Department of Justice are consulted on all matters having legal implications and the commission has been advised that there is no legal objection to following the practice adopted.

MR. MARTIN O'CONNELL

Question No. 407—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. Has Mr. Martin O'Connell, principal secretary to the Prime Minister, attended or appeared before any groups, meetings or gatherings of any kind in the constituency of Scarborough East in the past six months and, if so, what were the locations, dates, times of day, purpose and nature of each such occurrence and by what specific person in government was each authorized?

2. On any of these occasions, did Mr. O'Connell show or display to those present, pictures of the Prime Minister, including pictures of the Prime Minister's visit to Communist China and, if so, what was the general subject-matter of all such pictures, by whom were they taken, by whom were they supplied to Mr. O'Connell and what is the name of the specific owner?

3. Were any of these pictures shown in schools and, if so, what were the names of the schools, who were all persons involved in making arrangements for such showings and, in particular, who was the specific person initiating such gatherings in each case?

4. How many and which of these gatherings took place during normal business hours, was the Prime Minister aware of such gatherings and did Mr. O'Connell receive his usual government salary for the days on which they occurred?

5. Will the Prime Minister either instruct or permit Mr. O'Connell to undertake further showings of such pictures in (a) Scarborough East (b) elsewhere?

6. Has the Prime Minister been advised or made aware in any way that Mr. Martin O'Connell will resign his present position for the stated purpose of seeking the Liberal party nomination in the constituency of Scarborough East in the next federal election?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): 1. Mr. O'Connell was appointed under Section 37(1) Public Service Employment Act, and is therefore a member of ministerial exempt staff. Meetings and gatherings he has attended in evenings and on weekends have not conflicted with the duties for which he was appointed and are his personal affair.

2, 3, 4. During school hours on two occasions and therefore during conventional office hours, Mr. O'Connell visited West Hill Collegiate Institute, Scarborough College, R.H. King Collegiate Institute, Sir Wilfrid Laurier Collegiate Institute and Woburn Collegiate Institute to give a talk on "Impressions of China" relating to his trip there in October, 1973. The talk was accompanied by slides taken personally by Mr. O'Connell showing the Great Wall of China, a Ming Dynasty tomb, the Forbidden City, traditional and modern modes of transportation, housing, a school, people in the streets and in the fields, the interior of various caves, scenery along the River Li and other