

What the Hon. Member refers to, of course, is the fact that, under its rather quaint constitution, the United States administration does not have the full authority to make a treaty and that the Senate, without having the discipline of party lines which exists in our system, sometimes is not responsive to the urgings of the administration.

That poses a difficulty in relation to some treaty negotiations with the Americans. We must recognize that as a difficulty to be overcome, and we must show some patience as a consequence. I believe that the proof of the pudding is in the eating, and our past performance in successfully achieving agreements with the Americans will be reflected in this one.

Mr. Fulton: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Member has had one supplementary question. The Hon. Member for Wellington-Dufferin-Simcoe.

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CROWN CORPORATIONS

CANADAIR AND DE HAVILLAND LOSSES—GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Hon. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Dufferin-Simcoe): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to go back to the President of the Treasury Board who will be aware of the fact that while the Government has been dithering on omnibus Crown corporation legislation, the Canada Development Investment Corporation released yesterday its quarterly statements which show consolidated losses of over \$105 million, for which the taxpayers will have to pick up the tab. I want to ask this Minister, who is responsible for Crown corporations and for the Government's estimates—and I do not want him to fob the question off to the Minister of National Revenue—in view of the fact that both de Havilland and Canadair in this report indicate that they are going to be exceeding their loan guarantees in 1984 unless more cash is put into them, how much more money is the President of the Treasury Board prepared to recommend that Parliament put into these companies in the absence of comprehensive Crown corporation legislation?

● (1125)

Hon. Herb Gray (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I think my hon. friend should direct his questions about funding specifically for these companies to the Minister who answers for these companies in the House of Commons. I want to say to him that, as important as Crown corporation legislation is in order to improve their accountability framework, such legislation will not prevent downturns in world markets for aircraft caused by world recession, deregulation of the industry in the United States, or competition from other types of planes made by foreign competing companies.

I think what my hon. friend should be prepared to do, which he obviously is not, is to sing the same tune in this House as does his colleague, the Hon. Member for Etobicoke Centre,

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the industry critic, when he gives interviews to the French language press. There he says if he forms a government he will be supporting these companies. Here my hon. friend brings out what may be the hidden agenda of his Party, to destroy the tens of thousands of jobs involved. Why does he not come clean with the Canadian people and the workers involved?

Mr. Beatty: Mr. Speaker, we have no hidden agenda. Our policies are up front, unlike the Government's.

CANADA DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT CORPORATION—REQUEST THAT AUDITOR GENERAL HAVE ACCESS TO BOOKS

Hon. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Dufferin-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, this Minister seems incapable of telling the House what he is doing on Crown corporation policy. Is he prepared to give guarantees to this House of Commons that the concerns of the Auditor General regarding the auditing of Crown corporations will be included in any omnibus Crown corporation Bill, and in particular that the Auditor General be given access to the books of the Canada Development Investment Corporation?

Hon. Herb Gray (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, in my approach to developing legislation on this subject it is my intention to pay very serious attention to the concerns of the Auditor General. To the extent we respond to them in a way which the House considers adequate, it will be up to the House to decide when it sees the legislation. But I want to say to my hon. friend that I am surprised about what he says about his policies, in view of the fact that the finance critic of his Party says that when it comes to policies his Party should be in a fog because, if the public knew what his Party's policies were, they would never elect it, and I can well believe this.

URANIUM CARTEL—COURT RULING ON IMMUNITY OF CROWN CORPORATIONS

Mr. Chris Speyer (Cambridge): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice. For the past two years he and other members of the cabinet have promised that Uranium Canada and Eldorado Nuclear would be held to account, and the forum would be the courts. Yesterday the Supreme Court of Canada did not exonerate these two Crown corporations, but said they were immune from prosecution. The question remains: How are the officials accountable with respect to these actions?

In light of the fact we can not now prosecute these two Crown corporations, is the Minister willing to release the Bertrand Report as it pertains to these two Crown corporations, and which forms the basis of the prosecution he is mounting against the other defendants?

Hon. Mark MacGuigan (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I think it would be highly unusual to release evidence on which a prosecution is based when the prosecution is not proceeding. I will certainly take the advice of my Department, but at first