

*Oral Questions***VISIBLE MINORITIES****INTERNMENT OF JAPANESE CANADIANS DURING WORLD WAR II—REQUEST FOR RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS**

**Mr. Ernie Epp (Thunder Bay—Nipigon):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister in the absence of the Minister of State for Multiculturalism. The President of the National Association of Japanese-Canadians indicated yesterday that the Association has not achieved agreement with the Government on any item in a redress package, not on matters of principle any more than on matters of financial compensation. I thank the Minister for returning. Will he resume negotiations with the NAJC in order to arrive at agreement on the whole package on which the Association has made recommendations to the Government calling for action, and ensure that the redress package is acceptable to the community?

**Hon. Otto Jelinek (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport) and Minister of State (Multiculturalism)):** Mr. Speaker, as the Hon. Member knows, discussions with the NAJC, as well as other Japanese-Canadian organizations, have been going on for quite some time. It is only less than a week ago that the NAJC made a proposal to us. This was the first of its kind. That proposal has now been put forward for consideration by Cabinet along with other proposals, and is being considered.

**REQUEST THAT NEGOTIATOR BE APPOINTED**

**Mr. Ernie Epp (Thunder Bay—Nipigon):** Mr. Speaker, I will direct this question to the Prime Minister. The Minister has failed so completely to bring this matter to a satisfactory resolution before bringing it to Cabinet that I call upon the Prime Minister, whose personal honour is on the line here because of statements he made in June, 1984, to appoint a representative who will negotiate this kind of package. Will the Prime Minister appoint a representative to ensure that a redress package is negotiated?

**Mr. Forrestall:** You have the best one in the world.

**Hon. Otto Jelinek (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport) and Minister of State (Multiculturalism)):** Mr. Speaker, I want to clarify again for the Hon. Member that discussions have been ongoing throughout the course of the last year and a half with all interested groups, including the National Association of Japanese Canadians. We have attempted in every way, shape and form to open the doors to discussion, suggestions, and recommendations. Those suggestions have now come forward. We have put them on the cabinet table for consideration. I can assure all Hon. Members that this Government is going to keep its commitment and come forward with a fair, equitable, and honourable resolution to the problem.

**GRAIN****TRANSPORTATION AND HANDLING SERVICES IN PEACE RIVER RIDING**

**Mr. Albert Cooper (Peace River):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. As he is aware, I have been working for several years now to try to get some improvement of grain handling services in Valleyview and areas like that in my riding. When will we have some sort of program in place to help these people, and can we give them assurances that there will be something in place to handle this fall's crops?

**Hon. Don Mazankowski (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member has been an ardent supporter of innovations to improve the transportation system in his particular part of the country. We have undertaken a number of pilot projects in all three Prairie provinces to try to address this problem, particularly in the frontier areas. Yes, I can tell the Hon. Member that we are still working on a pilot project in co-operation with the Government of Alberta, and we hope to be in a position to do something in the very near future.

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**REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION****SYDNEY STEEL CORPORATION MODERNIZATION AGREEMENT**

**Mr. Russell MacLellan (Cape Breton—The Sydneys):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the President of the Treasury Board. At the end of December the then Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion announced an agreement with the Province of Nova Scotia for the second phase of the modernization of Sydney Steel Corporation. This agreement was signed at the end of February, yet the federal Government refuses to make any money available under this agreement. Has the agreement for the second phase of the modernization of Sydney Steel Corporation received the full approval of Treasury Board?

**Hon. Robert de Cotret (President of the Treasury Board):** Mr. Speaker, I will be happy to take the question as notice and communicate with my hon. colleague as soon as possible. I cannot give him a yes or no answer on that question. I will have to check.

**TREASURY BOARD APPROVAL**

**Mr. Russell MacLellan (Cape Breton—The Sydneys):** Mr. Speaker, this is a signed agreement and the President of the Treasury Board cannot tell us if it has approval from his Department. When is this agreement going to be approved by Treasury Board? It was signed in February, and people are counting on the money and the assistance it can bring.