

*Export Development Act*

what? I will bet you dollars to doughnuts that the energy costs will be subsidized by the people of the Dominican Republic just as the people of Indonesia subsidize the energy cost for Inco in Indonesia. At that point in time it will be found that lateritic nickel from the third world becomes much more economical than the nickel in Canada.—I see the member from Thompson, Manitoba, and I am going there tonight—

**An hon. Member:** Tell them about capital punishment.

**Mr. Rodriguez:** I will tell them about capitalism, not capital punishment.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**An hon. Member:** We will let Joe Clark tell them about capital punishment.

**Mr. Rodriguez:** Earlier in the debate I heard the hon. member for Dauphin (Mr. Ritchie) quote Karl Marx. I think socialism is creeping into Manitoba. Wait until Sterling Lyon hears about that, or better still wait until the hon. member for St. John's West (Mr. Crosbie) hears about that, or the hon. member for Winnipeg South—

**An hon. Member:** Winnipeg South Centre.

**Mr. Rodriguez:** Winnipeg South Centre (Mr. MacKenzie).

It is the friends that one has in high places that count. At that point in time lateritic nickel becomes much more economical than Canadian nickel.

Indeed, on the very day the Law of the Sea Conference opened to discuss ocean floor mining, the mining of nickel and magnesium from the floor of the ocean, Inco and Bellevue, Washington, unveiled the first experimental runs on the nodules which they have raised from the ocean floor. Even a minister of the government, the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Mr. Cullen), went to Sudbury. There was a mass rally of 25 people at a luncheon at the Chamber of Commerce. He told the people of Sudbury that as a nickel producing community its days are numbered.

I want to ask some simple questions that the people in the Sudbury basin asked. If we have \$77 million to put into helping Inco develop its lateritic ores in Guatemala and in Indonesia, why do they not make that \$77 million available in Canada at these reasonable rates of interest? This would help the community, the small entrepreneurs and individuals who want to develop an infrastructure around the nickel industry, such as heat pumps and copper rods and all the other infrastructure we can use in the Sudbury basin. Why do we not put the money into that?

There is another aspect to this whole question of multinational mining companies receiving EDC grants. I have heard a lot of garbage about creating employment in Canada. In the mining industry the Export Development Corporation has done nothing more than help the multinational mining companies do to the third world countries what was done here in Canada. For example, the lateritic nickel in Guatemala is

going to be mined from the shores of Lake Izabal. The boats will come in. The material will be scraped off the surface of the land and semi-processed, just as it is in the Sudbury basin. It will then be loaded on to ships. The ships will sail across the lake and across the ocean to Wales where it will be refined.

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EDC has loaned \$23 million to the Guatemalan operation. Inco says the total operation cost them \$325 million. It is highly capital intensive. It will employ 700 Guatemalans, and they will have spent \$325 million. We are allowing Inco, with the Canadian taxpayers' money, to do to third world countries as far as mining companies are concerned exactly what they have done here. That is what I am talking about. I want that perfectly clear.

It is morally wrong and economically mad to loan Canadian taxpayers' money to multinational companies which have raped this country, laying off workers the minute they feel a downbeat in the economy. It is not only morally wrong, but economically stupid. Regardless of what the hon. member for Comox-Alberni has said, it is wrong to loan money to Inco and Falconbridge to set up an operation to do in third world countries exactly what they have done to Canadians.

Note the countries they go to, countries with a record of respect for human freedoms. They have gone to Guatemala where the "Butcher of Zacapa" provided a captive work force for Inco. In the Dominican Republic they have a dictator, Balaguer. It is interesting to note that when Marsh Cooper played golf with the president, they had armed guards guarding the golf course. You can see how loved the dictator is by his people.

I raised this in 1974 when Bill C-9 was before the committee. I went through the whole process of a country where the political regime has denied its people their human and civil rights. They do not call him the "Butcher of Zacapa" for nothing. I brought that out. I said in effect we have the taxpayers of Canada participating in this sort of development, but not to help the people develop and control the technology for the future. Is that the kind of development we want for the third world? Do we want to make them hewers of wood and drawers of water in their own country? Are we going to allow to happen to them what happened to us? I say that is morally wrong.

We should provide the Guatemalan government with low interest loans, guaranteed in the same fashion as EDC loans are presently guaranteed, and let them purchase the technology required for the operation. If they want to exploit their lateritic nickel, give them a long-term loan at a reasonable rate of interest to help them develop their own technology and resources so that they can be master in their own home. They should not be subject to the whims and fancies of a multinational mining company.

We then go to Indonesia. Amnesty International tells us there are 55,000 political prisoners who have been put in prison without trial there. We have the situation in Indonesia where Inco is attempting to penetrate the Japanese market.