

matter with fishermen's organizations. We will keep hon. members informed.

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ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

ACTION AGAINST MEMBERS OF CUPW INVOLVED IN STRIKE

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice and Minister of Transport. It arises out of a statement which he made to the Canadian Press, that it is his intention to take action against local union leaders of CUPW.

If those charges have been laid, were they laid under the Criminal Code of Canada? Will those charges be under the direction of the Department of Justice? If not, will they be under the direction of the various attorneys general departments in the various provinces in which the five cities referred to by the minister in the press release are situated? I will not set them out in the House.

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport and Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I have signed four additional indictments against members of the national executive of CUPW which, along with the five previously signed, were laid under the same section of the Criminal Code. Also, they were laid by way of direct indictment. The charges against CUPW itself were laid by way of indictment under section 115 of the Criminal Code. The federal Department of Justice will proceed with the prosecutions.

Mr. Woolliams: Mr. Speaker, since the Department of Justice will be initiating the charges and the court procedure, I take it the minister and his department will take responsibility, rather than pass it off as was done with the question as to whether the Rolling Stones had a right of appeal under the drug laws of this country. Will the minister and his department take responsibility for these charges and this procedure?

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member has repeated what I just said in my answer. We are in charge.

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[Translation]

FISHERIES

NEGOTIATIONS WITH UNITED STATES ON FISHING BOUNDARIES—REQUEST FOR PROGRESS REPORT

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Fisheries and the Environment and has nothing to do with lobsters. Since Ambassador Marcel Cadieux, the Canadian negotiator with regard to maritime boundaries, has been assigned other duties in the field of national security, would the minister be willing to make a statement in the House on the present state of

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affairs with regard to those bilateral negotiations with the United States? What progress has been made?

Hon. Roméo LeBlanc (Minister of Fisheries and the Environment): Mr. Speaker, I am not sure the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Jamieson), to whom Mr. Cadieux reports, should not be the one to answer that question but I can, in general terms, say that Mr. Cadieux is pursuing his work. Anyway, I should remind the hon. member that he was our former ambassador with the community. As he is now in Ottawa, he is even more accessible than before. We met him after his most recent conversations with the American negotiator, Mr. Cutler, early this week. It seems possible, subject to discussions with representatives of the industry, both fishermen and industrialists, and of course with the provincial governments concerned, that an agreement could be reached on the fisheries. Of course, as I have already said, all this is subject to discussion, but it seems an agreement is possible; still, we have acquired some experience in this regard over the past year, and the fact remains that the optimism of Thursday is often followed by the pessimism of Monday.

[English]

TRIBUNAL TO DECIDE UNRESOLVED QUESTIONS

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Are the unresolved questions, whether they be on the Georges Bank on the east coast or on the Dixon Entrance, likely to be assigned to an arbitration tribunal, whether it be an arbitration tribunal in The Hague or a special tribunal? Can the minister say anything along these lines at this time?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I would prefer not to be too specific because negotiations are continuing. However, I think I have said on a number of previous occasions that we have never discarded the option of possible reference to a third party, or arbitration, whichever word the hon. member of the House wishes to use. However, as of this moment negotiations are continuing. No definite decision has been made regarding whether to refer all or part of the boundary question or other related issues to a third party.

Incidentally, during the coming visit of Secretary of State Vance, I hope that he and I will have an opportunity to review the total picture. At that time, or shortly thereafter, it is conceivable that we may be able to come to a mutually satisfactory decision on the unresolved issues.

PROGRESS OF NEGOTIATIONS ON SAINT PIERRE AND MIQUELON ISSUE

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, on October 12 I raised this issue with the Secretary of State for External Affairs. At that time I asked him for an update on boundary questions and he said that they were still under