

Minister is proposing that in the future the Chairman will take his instructions from the private shareholders.

What is to prevent the private shareholders, who are quite legitimately interested mainly in making a profit, from saying that it does not pay them to maintain the base in Winnipeg or bases in other cities? Surely the requirement is an assurance in legislation that the bases in Winnipeg and Toronto will be maintained at their present or higher levels.

**Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, I cannot imagine why the Hon. Member is so nervous about Winnipeg. It is a profitable maintenance centre, it does good service, and has dedicated employees. Air Canada has made a firm commitment.

**Mr. Riis:** Remember the F-18.

**Mr. Mazankowski:** In the event that the Hon. Member is not aware of everything that goes on there, in addition to maintaining its own aircraft Air Canada's Winnipeg maintenance base also performs maintenance contracts for other carriers and the airline will continue seeking out and bidding for these opportunities. It is a going concern. Why would you want to remove it, Mr. Speaker?

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## IMMIGRATION

### TURKISH REFUGEE CLAIMANTS—MINISTER'S MEETING WITH DELEGATION

**Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Employment and Immigration and concerns the plight of the Turkish claimants who are here today on Parliament Hill.

I understand that the Minister has recently met with representatives of the Turkish delegation. Can the Minister inform the House of the discussions which she just completed with the delegation? Can she further elaborate for the House upon whether she informed the group that she, as Minister, can and will act under Section 115(2) of the Immigration Act which permits the federal Government to admit any individual into this country under compassionate or humanitarian considerations?

**Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of Employment and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, I am familiar with the Act. My discussion with the leader of the Turkish community which is in Ottawa today was to inform them that the process which we put in place last Friday, and the commitment which I made to them, would end with their demonstration on Parliament Hill. I will be making a statement to inform the House more fully at three o'clock.

## Oral Questions

### MINISTER'S POSITION

**Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West):** Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is for the same Minister. Surely the Minister knows that the humanitarian and discretionary powers afforded her under the Act exist for a specific reason, to deal largely with humane cases which are neither black nor white and arise unannounced, whether through natural disasters or man-made unscrupulous scams.

Given that the former Minister of State for Immigration has described these individuals as "innocent victims of unscrupulous consultants," the consultants being the real cancer of the disease who go unaddressed, why is the Minister so steadfastly opposed to administering the humanitarian criteria which the Government used 40,000 times last year, one of which times was for Professor Georges Grossmann who did not need humanitarian assistance to stay in Canada?

● (1450)

**Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of Employment and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, what we as a Government want to accomplish in terms of immigration and refugees is that the law be applied not in an arbitrary fashion; in a humane fashion and a compassionate fashion, but not in an arbitrary fashion. That is why there are two Bills that we would like to get passed so that we can deal with the larger issue of refugees and immigrants, and refugees' families and immigrants' families, and family reunification, and the growth we want in immigration in Canada and our ability to be humane in a fair way to everyone.

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[Translation]

## NATIVE PEOPLES

### RELOCATION OF PORT BURWELL INUIT GROUP—STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS

**Mr. Guy St-Julien (Abitibi):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. The Inuit in New Quebec told me about a problem concerning a group of Inuit who were moved from Port Burwell in 1978.

As you know, in 1984 former residents of Port Burwell started proceedings to sue the federal Government for \$55 million. In October 1987, the Minister announced that negotiations had started between his special representative on the James Bay agreements and the Makivik Corporation.

My question is this: What tangible progress has been achieved in these negotiations toward settling a question that is very important to the Inuit of New Quebec?

[English]

**Hon. Bill McKnight (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member, as