

*Oral Questions*

**An Hon. Member:** A Privy Councillor.

**Mr. Mazankowski:** —a Privy Councillor and a former Minister—

**Mr. Beatty:** A former Solicitor General.

**Mr. Mazankowski:** —a former Solicitor General, would engage in that kind of innuendo and smear.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**An Hon. Member:** Shame.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Hon. Member for Nickel Belt.

**Mr. Rodriguez:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Mazankowski:** Smear.

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

**Mr. Hnatyshyn:** I have got the letters to show you, too.

**Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra):** Do you want to table them, Ray?

**An Hon. Member:** Ray, go back to sleep.

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Members and Hon. Ministers will refrain from exchanging suggestions about what each other can do with the time which is available, unless those suggestions are at least sought through the Chair. The Hon. Member for Nickel Belt.

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• (1450)

## FISHERIES

### CANADA-FRANCE AGREEMENT

**Mr. John R. Rodriguez (Nickel Belt):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and deals with the interim agreement that has been signed between the Minister and the Government of France. The Minister would have us believe from all his answers today that this agreement is a fine one. If it is such a fine one, why did the Minister not consult with the Premier of Newfoundland before he signed it?

**Hon. Thomas Siddon (Minister of Fisheries and Oceans):** Mr. Speaker, I did not characterize the agreement as a fine one.

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

**Mr. Siddon:** In an issue as difficult as this, sometimes a measured step has to be taken toward a solution. In this case the Government of Newfoundland and the industry were fully involved up until the final occurrence, the final trip to Paris last week. French officials, after reconsidering previous

meetings, decided that there was a possibility of concluding an agreement within the terms of reference and conditions which had been agreed to and were well known to the various Governments prior to that date.

**Mr. Rodriguez:** Mr. Speaker, obviously the French Government thinks it was a fine agreement. The people of Newfoundland are sick and tired of this Minister acting like a French poodle instead of a Labrador retriever.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The Chair is not here to keep Hon. Members from being hard on Ministers, but I think one might leave the dogs out of it.

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

**Mr. Rodriguez:** Mr. Speaker, I hope this place is not going to the dogs.

### ROLE OF NEWFOUNDLAND

**Mr. John R. Rodriguez (Nickel Belt):** Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the Minister. Since in fact the Government of Newfoundland was part of the negotiations up until the last week before the agreement was signed, will the Minister not tell the House why he dropped that input from the people of Newfoundland? Are we returning to the days of the kind of federal-provincial relations which existed under Pierre Trudeau?

**Hon. Thomas Siddon (Minister of Fisheries and Oceans):** Mr. Speaker, I am tempted. I do not know whether I should characterize the Hon. Member as a red snapper or as a fear monger. The fact is that the arrangements under which this agreement was concluded, an agreement which gives nothing away at this point, were fully known to the Province of Newfoundland. My office has been in daily informal contact, and while we can certainly appreciate the basis for Mr. Peckford's reaction we believe that when Newfoundland fishermen have to face a choice between ultimately resolving the boundary question or having this unsatisfactory situation continue, they will weigh the factors and decide to see the boundary issue resolved once and for all.

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## NATIONAL DEFENCE

### OERLIKON LOW LEVEL AIR DEFENCE SYSTEM

**Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Defence. Yesterday in the House of Commons the Minister said that Oerlikon's ADATS missile system was able to shoot down anything that could fly in any weather. In view of the