

## Oral Questions

## HEALTH

## REASON FOR REFUSAL TO REVEAL CONTENTS OF DRUGS

**Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River):** Mr. Speaker, my question is not supplementary but has regard to a matter which is more mundane. It is directed to the Minister of National Health and Welfare who, through his official position, at least qualifies as an expert. I have received a letter from a correspondent who says that following recent reports in the press about the effects of estrogen used in a contraceptive pill she made certain inquiries of the Department of National Welfare, to which an answer came back in a stereotype form letter stating:

With the new government regulations, we cannot distribute material which shows the contents of drugs.

Please contact your doctor for further information on the pill.

I would ask the minister if there are such instructions on what they are based, and the reason behind refusing people of this country information of this sort.

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, I will be pleased to investigate the particular incident to which the hon. member is referring. But I believe there is, indeed, a standard regulation to the effect that the composition of drugs coming under the patent laws of Canada cannot be revealed by the government to competitors or to the general public at large. I think this is the situation, but I will investigate it further and report to the hon. member.

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## AIRPORTS

## TORONTO INTERNATIONAL—REASON EMPLOYEES NOT GIVEN SECURITY CLEARANCE ALLOWED IN SECURE AREAS

**Mr. Otto Jelinek (High Park-Humber Valley):** Mr. Speaker, now that the airlines will once again be operating I should like to repeat my question to the Minister of Transport regarding airport security, specifically at the Toronto international airport. In an answer to a question on May 28 the minister said that those who have access to security situations are processed for security clearance. Would the minister advise this House whether Air Canada computers and immigration offices in Canada are classified as security areas and, if they are, would he explain why members of the cleaning staff at the Toronto airport who, as he knows, have not been processed for security clearance, continue to have access to those areas, thereby creating a potential break in the security system at that airport?

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, obviously if the hon. member wants information about specific employees or groups of employees I would want to check before answering him.

**Mr. Jelinek:** Mr. Speaker, I realize it is a known fact that security for the Olympics, including passenger areas, at our major international airports is indeed excellent. However, because potential dangers continue to exist as far as security is concerned, in respect of employees working at these airports, be it because of illegal immigrants or the

[Mr. Allmand.]

lack of appropriate security clearance of employees, would the minister undertake to initiate an investigation into this specific matter prior to the start of the Olympic games to assure Canadians the absolute safety they deserve during this potentially explosive period of time?

**Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, surely the hon. member knows that very special steps have been taken to assure security, and I think he may be satisfied that that is the case.

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## ENERGY

## INQUIRY AS TO CONTINGENCY PLAN IN CASE OF NUCLEAR ACCIDENT

**Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Acting Prime Minister and relates to recent reports that the United States government is developing a disaster plan to cope with the casualties, property damage and loss of civil control which might be caused by a serious accident at a nuclear plant or by the explosion of a nuclear device by a terrorist group. Will the Acting Prime Minister tell the House whether similar contingency planning is being done by the Canadian government and, if so, which government departments are involved and what minister is responsible for the co-ordination of this planning?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I have not been aware of any such discussions going on, but I thank the hon. lady for putting this idea in our minds. Perhaps it is something to which we should be turning our attention.

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## NATIONAL DEFENCE

## DATE OF ANNOUNCEMENT OF CHANGE IN INFRASTRUCTURE

**Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West):** Mr. Speaker, is the Minister of National Defence in a position to indicate that by the end of this week, or if parliament should be sitting at the end of next week, he will announce changes in the defence infrastructure in Canada having regard to the closing of certain bases and the possible reduction of the reserve strength of certain units?

**Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, I do not anticipate making any announcement concerning changes in the infrastructure before the House rises.

**Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact there is considerable interest and a great deal of unrest in certain communities, is the minister able to give us the target date at which he is aiming in this regard, bearing in mind the fact that he told several members of this House, including myself, that the decision could be expected first of all in April, then in May, and now we are at the end of June, so presumably he is taking us into the middle of July? Is there any particular date by which he