

*Oral Questions***AIR CANADA****ESTEY REPORT—GOVERNMENT ACTION ON
RECOMMENDATIONS**

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Transport. In view of the fact that the report of Mr. Justice Estey makes reference to practices of a type that would be discouraged or prohibited in other industries and illustrates what has been occurring in commercial airlines, making specific mention of kickbacks, and so forth, due to the necessity of competing in the travel business, would the minister reconsider his recent statement that the airline, meaning Air Canada, would be made to act more like other commercial airlines?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport): I think the hon. member may rather be referring to restrictive practices which it would be better to see removed rather than the contrary, since some of the consequences that he points to are the result of international arrangements rather than national ones.

Mr. Benjamin: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Justice Estey's report also calls for tighter internal and external scrutiny of Crown corporations. In view of the fact that the government has effectively curtailed operations of the Standing Committee on Transportation for the past three or four years, would the minister assure the House that henceforth the annual reports of Canadian National and Air Canada will be presented to parliament and subsequently referred to the Standing Committee on Transportation for scrutiny in order to abide by Mr. Justice Estey's recommendations?

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, in this area, as in all others having to do with transportation policy, I would be delighted to see the Standing Committee on Transport play a full role. This has been our practice with regard to other major areas and it is the case here, too.

**ESTEY REPORT—POSSIBLE PUBLICATION OF CONFIDENTIAL
SECTION**

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre): A final supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. With regard to the part of Mr. Justice Estey's report that the minister considers confidential, I notice the press quoted the minister as saying that the confidential report contains nothing of major public interest. If the minister is quoted correctly, would he now agree that the co-called confidential report that he said has no major item of public interest in it should be made public and made available to the House?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, that particular remark was in answer to a question concerning the impact of the report on a variety of decisions in which we may take an interest in this House. That is as far as I want to go in regard to making any reference to the content of the report. The report is confidential because the commissioner made it so.

[Mr. MacEachen.]

POST OFFICE**DATE OF SUBMISSION OF SETTLEMENT WITH POSTAL UNION
TO ANTI-INFLATION BOARD—CONTINGENCY PLAN IF
SETTLEMENT REJECTED**

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Postmaster General. Since it is about a week since the mail workers returned to work and it is considerably longer than that time since the Anti-Inflation Board have known of the government's final wage offer, would the minister inform the House when the minister or minister's officials submitted the draft contract arrangements to the Anti-Inflation Board, and can he tell us when we can expect a decision?

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, the ratified collective agreement is before the Anti-Inflation Board. I must plead ignorance to the precise day, having left it up to my officials. I have not heard yet from the Anti-Inflation Board as to whether it meets with their approval or disapproval or whether there is any particular area of clarification needed by the board. I am naturally waiting anxiously for their decision. In the meantime, we are proceeding as if the collective agreement were in force and are paying the wages outlined in the proposed new collective agreement.

Mr. McGrath: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Since the Anti-Inflation Board has had the government's final wage offer for some considerable time, and since it now appears as if any delay is the result of a split between the board as to whether or not to ratify the contract—and hence my question is not entirely hypothetical—what contingency plans does the minister have in the event that the Anti-Inflation Board offers his contract with the postal workers as a sacrifice on the altar of restraint?

Mr. Mackasey: Mr. Speaker, I have said on numerous occasions that we have tried to negotiate collective agreement within the spirit of the guidelines. I have said further that I am prepared to speak on behalf of the union if such is necessary in the event that there are areas that need to be clarified. As to what would happen if theoretically the collective agreement were rejected by the Anti-Inflation Board I cannot say until I have had an opportunity of studying the regulations that are probably now being set up, or which will be set up the moment that the law comes into existence.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**INDONESIA—SUGGESTED CANCELLATION OF ASSISTANCE IN
PULP AND PAPER PROJECT IN VIEW OF INVASION OF TIMOR**

Mr. A. D. Alkenbrack (Frontenac-Lennox and Addington): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the right hon. Prime Minister and arises from recent announcements made by the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce that the government is interested in assisting in a pulp and paper complex in Indonesia, through a third world project partnership agreement between France and Canada. In view of the recent invasion by Indonesia of Portuguese Timor and of the apparent corrupt and barbaric regime of President