

*Oral Questions*

ensure that if one country like Canada plays it straight the recipient country cannot make an end run by co-operating with a third country. This is the important thing, but this is not within Canada's sole power to redress. This must be done by convincing other countries to be as stringent as we are.

CONFERENCE ON NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS—REQUEST FOR REPORT

**Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that a little over a week ago a conference called by the United States, and held in London, of the various nuclear powers, of which Canada is one, met to do the very thing the Prime Minister has just outlined, I would ask the Prime Minister who represented Canada at that conference, what progress was made, what plans are there to meet again, and can he assure the House that when some policy decision is reached by the six nations concerned an announcement will be made in the House so hon. members can know what commitments Canada has made in respect of the sales of nuclear equipment and materials?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I have not read the report on the conference yet and, therefore, I am not able to give the hon. member an answer. I must warn him in advance that certainly what would be public would be the end result, with other countries taking the position that Canada did in upgrading their safeguards. The negotiations, my own bilateral talks and multilateral meetings such as the one in London are certainly things that would not be made public. It is the results that will be made public and we hope that other countries will do as well as Canada in upgrading their safeguards.

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[Translation]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

SUGGESTED REDUCTION IN PRISON SENTENCES FOR VIOLENT CRIMES—GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask the Minister of Justice a question.

Does he intend to carry out the recent suggestion made by the Law Reform Commission that imprisonment should be a last resort, or does he not rather intend, as American President Ford has already done, to recommend in the near future more severe penalties for people committing violent crimes and thus proceed with the adoption of a more typical piece of legislation that takes into account our society's strong desire to live in peace and justice?

[English]

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice):** Mr. Speaker, it would be our intention to look very carefully at every sort of recommendation of the Law Reform Commission. At the present time we have the working papers on this subject rather than the final reports. However, we expect these within the next six or eight months, following which

[Mr. Trudeau.]

we would examine what proposals we should put before parliament, and introduce the necessary legislation.

REQUEST FOR COPIES OF PLEADINGS AND JUDGMENT IN CASE SEEKING PROHIBITION ON PUBLICATION OF DIARIES OF FORMER BRITISH CABINET MINISTER

**Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River):** Mr. Speaker, is the Minister of Justice aware of the very important court action being started or being carried on in the United Kingdom in which the Attorney General is seeking to prohibit the publication of the diaries of a former minister of cabinet, now deceased, and does the government agree with that position? Because of the very great importance of the knowledge of government facts and government information, would the minister agree to obtain copies of the pleadings and reasons for judgment in that case and make them available?

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice):** Mr. Speaker, I have to confess that I have not been following the case very closely and I have not really seen the direct relevance of it to our position.

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INFORMATION

CRITERIA FOR PUBLICATION OF DOCUMENTS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question I should like to address to the government House leader. In light of the fact that most of the diaries have already been published and, in the opinion of the British press, they show a picture of fallible men making factual decisions often in the dark or near darkness, will the government House leader instruct his colleagues, and their parliamentary secretaries, that this should no longer be the main criteria in respect of the publication of documents and the giving of information in this House?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (President of the Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, that has never been a criterion on this side of the House, but I sometimes wonder about the other side.

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

**Mr. Nowlan:** You don't know if you are in the dark because you have never seen the light of day.

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TRANSPORT

CRASH OF PANARCTIC AIRCRAFT—REQUEST FOR FEDERAL INQUIRY

**Mr. Howard Johnston (Okanagan-Kootenay):** Mr. Speaker, I intended to direct my question to the Minister of Transport, but as he is not in the House perhaps his parliamentary secretary could answer. Has the minister's department had time to consider the request from the