

*Oral Questions*

by the RCMP. It seems reasonable to me that the government should have the revelations of that investigation and the details thereof before deciding whether or not an inquiry is warranted, and that is what we are waiting for.

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST SEAFARERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION—SUGGESTION SOLICITOR GENERAL SECURE COPIES OF TAPE OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION FROM TORONTO POLICE

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, not accepting the argument that now is not the time to appoint an industrial inquiry commission, if what is being pursued is an investigation by the police, may I ask the Solicitor General if he will ascertain whether the Royal Canadian Mounted Police have secured or will secure copies of the tapes made of telephone conversations which apparently have been obtained by the Toronto Police.

**Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General):** Mr. Speaker, the RCMP at last report had a transcript of one taped conversation which was given to them by the Toronto police. So far as I know, that was the only one the Toronto police felt was of relevance in respect the RCMP inquiry. I might point out that the Toronto Police themselves and perhaps the Ontario Provincial Police were investigating the question relating to violence between certain members of the SIU. One would have to check with them to find out the evidence they have.

**Mr. Stanfield:** On a point of order—

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre on a final supplementary.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that what some of us are asking for is a broad inquiry into the whole matter, will the Solicitor General make sure that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police get transcripts or copies of all tapes obtained by the Toronto police or the Ontario Provincial Police in respect of SIU matters.

**Mr. Allmand:** Mr. Speaker, I understand that the Minister of Justice has contacted the Ontario authorities to get that evidence, and when he gets it we will see if such a public inquiry is necessary. Let me say that if there is substantial basis for a public inquiry I presume the government will have one, but thus far no evidence has been given which would substantiate such an inquiry.

**Mr. Stanfield:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Labour, if I understood him correctly, just said he was deferring any decision on a request for a public inquiry until the police inquiry into the violence had been terminated, whereas the Solicitor General yesterday and again today indicated to the House quite clearly he thought that the police inquiry was not into violence on the waterfront but simply into charges relating to federal officials or ministers or things right around here. I have to say I think we are being led down the garden path.

**Mr. Allmand:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order to clarify this matter, the RCMP are investigating questions relating

[Mr. Munro (Hamilton East).]

to possible corruption in respect of federal officials or members of parliament and the Ontario Provincial Police and the Toronto Metropolitan Police are investigating those matters relating to violence in respect of individuals on the waterfront.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member for Bellechasse.

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[Translation]

### PENITENTIARIES

MONTMAGNY—CONSULTATIONS WITH QUEBEC REGARDING CLOSING OF DISTRICT JAILS

**Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse):** Mr. Speaker, may I put a question to the Solicitor General?

Since the jail of Montmagny will soon be closed, may I ask the minister if the federal government gives a financial contribution for maintaining and building district jails, and if yes, can he tell the House whether he had consultations on this with the authorities of the Quebec government?

[English]

**Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General):** Mr. Speaker, we have signed an agreement with the province of Quebec and other provinces for the exchange of facilities. We have had discussions with the province of Quebec about using some of their facilities where they are no longer needed or where there is a small prison population. I would have to get information on that particular institution and report to the hon. member.

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### LABOUR CONDITIONS

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST SEAFARERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION—REQUEST FOR NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS AGAINST UNION

**Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Acting Prime Minister if he would obtain from the Minister of Labour and the Solicitor General and from their department particulars as to the number of incidents in which complaints of violence, intimidation or improper conduct have been made in respect of the Seafarers' International Union in recent years so that despite the sensitivity of the government in respect of conducting any judicial inquiry this House may form some opinion as to the need for such an inquiry.

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I am sorry but I do not quite understand what kind of incidents the hon. member was inquiring about. Is he talking about violence on the waterfront or allegations made by Mr. Shulman?

**Mr. Baldwin:** On that point of order, I am inquiring about incidents on the waterfront which have been matters of national notoriety over the past few years. Would he inquire of the ministers involved, who may not have been ministers at the time, about the number of incidents