

*Inquiries of the Ministry*SECURITY OF UNITED STATES TRANSPORTATION ROUTES—
ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROLLING

Mr. David Anderson (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Acting Prime Minister in his capacity as Secretary of State for External Affairs regarding the security of United States oil routes. In view of the fact that the United States Department of the Interior published earlier this month a study showing that the Alaska pipeline and the offshore tanker route would be entirely within United States hands and thus would be more secure than a pipeline passing through Canadian territory, would the minister please inform me whether or not the United States government has entered into discussions with the Canadian government with a view to handing over anti-submarine patrolling on the west coast of Canada to United States forces rather than, as is presently the case, leaving it to Canadian naval units?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Not as far as I am aware, Mr. Speaker.

FEASIBILITY OF CONSTRUCTING PIPELINE FROM WESTERN
CANADA TO MONTREAL—APPEARANCE OF MINISTER
AND NATIONAL ENERGY BOARD CHAIRMAN BEFORE
COMMITTEE

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. The minister stated that he has no study to present to the House for us to examine. Since this is a most important matter for the Canadian people, would the minister and the chairman of the National Energy Board be willing to appear in the near future before the appropriate committee of the House to answer questions so that the Canadian people can become better acquainted with the facts surrounding this important matter?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, when the estimates of the National Energy Board are before the committee we would certainly be most pleased to appear. I reiterate that the question of the economic viability of pipelines in Canada is left to the private sector. It is not for the government to determine whether or not to build pipelines; that is not the way we operate.

Mr. Speaker: Order. I hesitate to interrupt the minister but perhaps at this point we might pass on to another subject.

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[Translation]

NATIONAL PARKS

QUEBEC—ESTABLISHMENT OF PARK IN ST. MAURICE
VALLEY—CONSTRUCTION OF SKI AREA AT
ST. GERARD

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Could he make a statement on the articles published in the Mauricie newspaper *Le Nouvelliste* which referred to

[Mr. Speaker.]

one Hawai trip where the minister would have signed agreements with local businessmen with regard to a proposed ski centre in Saint-Gérard and the construction of an access road to the national park in the St. Maurice valley?

Mr. Speaker: Order. I suggest that this question could be placed on the order paper. If the hon. member considers this to be an urgent matter, perhaps he could send me notice so that it may be debated at the time of adjournment.

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege.

Mr. Matte: At ten o'clock, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The minister on a question of privilege.

Mr. Chrétien: I wish to inform the hon. member that yesterday on its editorial page *Le Nouvelliste* extended its apologies to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development for these unfortunate suggestions, and—

Mr. Speaker: Order. The question of privilege is not in order.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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BANKRUPTCY

REPRESENTATIONS BY QUEBEC MINISTER OF JUSTICE
ON STUDY COMMITTEE REPORT

Hon. Martial Asselin (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, I have a question I wish to ask the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

Is the minister in a position to inform the House whether he has received from the Quebec Minister of Justice, on the subject of the Tassé report on bankruptcy, a communication in which the minister expressed his opposition to several points of the report and asked the federal minister for a further delay that would allow the Quebec officials to make their own comments on this report? If so, would he tell us what has been his answer to the Quebec Minister of Justice?

[English]

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I am aware that there have been discussions between officials of the two departments but whether there has been formal communication I do not know. I have not seen any but I will certainly make an inquiry. If the Quebec government or anyone else wishes to make representations or comments on the report on bankruptcy and insolvency, naturally I will welcome those comments and representations whenever they may be made and will pay very careful attention to them.