

Adjournment Debate

the minister explain how he got into Canada, how long he was here and, if he is still here, where he is presently located.

In addition, there is the case of Mr. Nyuyen Tan Doi, the former South Vietnamese banker, who was charged with embezzlement in South Vietnam upon his return to his native country from Canada some two years ago. The Doi case is interesting as well as astonishing when one looks at the facts.

Doi came to Canada in 1969 with his family and was admitted as a landed immigrant. They presently reside in Montreal. However, between 1969 and 1975, Doi spent most of his time in South Vietnam. In fact, upon his return in 1972 or early 1973, he ran for and was elected to the South Vietnamese congress, clearly establishing his intent to re-establish his domicile in that country. This automatically should have voided his Canadian immigrant status, but for some strange, unaccountable reason, known only to the minister, his landed immigrant status was not revoked or, as far as I know, even challenged. Yet Doi, just a few weeks ago, assisted by Canadian officials in Bangkok, was whisked away from a refugee camp in southern Thailand and returned to Montreal with his immigrant status unchanged. Again the question, why?

Many people in Canada are also asking why. They are asking other questions too. Were the Quangs, the Dois and the Bardecios given special treatment? Were they allowed into Canada because they were rich? Was pressure exerted on Canadian officials to take these people in from the cold, as they say in the world of spies, because they might be an embarrassment to another country? Was there a highly organized escape route to Canada for certain highly placed and highly questionable South Vietnamese officials who apparently could easily masquerade as legitimate refugees because they already had substantial contacts in Canada, and who were afraid that U.S. public opinion would preclude their entry into the U.S. after the deluge in Saigon?

Why did it take the minister seven weeks to make up his mind to deport Quang when he had in his possession hard evidence from U.S. and other authorities substantiating my allegations in the House that Quang was nothing but a gangster?

I would also like to ask the minister why, in view of the fact that none of these persons I have mentioned who came from South Vietnam was in any danger to their lives because they were safe in refugee camps, there was such a great hurry in getting them into Canada?

I would like to ask the minister why, in view of the fact that he has publicly admitted that several Vietnamese persons in Canada are under investigation by his department, he did not see to it that these questionable persons were thoroughly checked out before entering Canada? I would like to ask whether these persons, before entering Canada, were screened by our own visa control and security officers in Guam, Camp Pendleton, Fort Chaffee, Bangkok or other refugee camps?

● (2210)

Maybe one answer is that the whole thing was a series of errors based upon utter stupidity on the part of several

Canadian officials. In any case, the minister owes the Canadian people a complete and open statement on this whole shameful affair. I am not at all opposed to admitting legitimate refugees from any country, but I'll be damned if I'll sit back and remain mute when I know criminals are gaining easy access to Canada. We have enough of our own to handle. I would have preferred the minister to have been here tonight to answer my charges.

Mr. William Rompkey (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, when the hon. member for Brant (Mr. Blackburn) asked a question in the House on May 28, 1975, concerning a review of our information gathering system for background checks on prospective immigrants he was informed that our adviser in this regard does not concentrate on the use of one or another agency but uses various sources.

Officials of the Department of Manpower and Immigration maintain very close liaison and co-operation with all levels of law enforcement agencies in very many countries, including, of course, the RCMP, through the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand). I am sure hon. members know that the Solicitor General acts as our adviser in regard to background checks of prospective immigrants, but we cannot comment on his sources of information in the international community.

As you are aware, Mr. Speaker, the immigration program is global in nature and information gathering facilities must also be global in their ability to provide the necessary information. It is for this reason that such contacts and sources of information are so widespread and far reaching. You may be assured, Mr. Speaker, that the information needed is requested from as many sources as is considered necessary in any particular instance.

Mr. Blackburn: Gee! Thanks a hell of a lot!

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE—SUGGESTION MINISTER
ORDER NEW TRIAL FOR DR. MORGENTALER—POSSIBILITY OF
NEW TRIAL OR PARDON IN SUBSEQUENT PROSECUTIONS

Mr. Paul Dick (Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address my representations to the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang). I am happy to find him in the House this evening, and perhaps if he can disengage himself from conversation for a few minutes he might find himself able to reply to what I have to say.

On July 9 I asked a couple of straightforward questions dealing with Dr. Henry Morgentaler and the situation in which he now finds himself. The questions were simple and straightforwardly put. In spite of the minister's reply, I found that my use of the language was not too bad.

Unfortunately the minister got carried away by his own hysterics in this situation, could not answer a straightforward question, and got caught up in the emotionalism he finds in this issue. I agree that in the last few months while the debate on abortion has been before us and, while discussion has gone on about a jury verdict being overturned by a superior court, that emotions have run high.