

Oral Questions

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. If the minister is not prepared to go as far as I suggested would he give favourable consideration to the suggestion made by the hon. member for Lac-Saint-Jean to tax back from everyone any increase that exceeds 12 per cent or \$2,400, whichever is the lesser?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I take that as a representation as I did from the hon. member for Lac-Saint-Jean.

* * *

AIRPORTS

SECURITY CHECKS—REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION OF ALLEGED INADEQUACY

Mr. Bill Clarke (Vancouver Quadra): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. In light of today's CBC news report that a passenger boarding at Toronto International Airport passed through the security check with hand baggage containing a high powered rifle with ammunition, will the minister investigate what is happening to the moneys allocated by Parliament for security checks at airports, since it is obviously not providing the protection expected?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I read the news report like my hon. friend. I know one passenger boarded, I think, a Sabena plane in Brussels flying to Toronto. He was carrying a handbag containing a rifle and ammunition, and even a knife. He went through the security check without being stopped and it was the stewardess who, finding the bag was heavy, asked the passenger what it contained. He said it contained a rifle. Of course, that does not show that the system is good, but the security system in Toronto is under the responsibility of Air Canada. I know the corporation immediately suspended the person responsible for the negligence.

I hope this will not happen too often, but there will be no need to be shocked if it happens from time to time, because it happens all over the world. Some people even entered Germany, France or England with machine-guns. I regret it very much, but at all events Air Canada has taken the necessary steps to correct the situation.

[English]

Mr. Clarke (Vancouver Quadra): I wonder what would have happened if the passenger had not admitted he had the gun.

An hon. Member: You would not have a question and we would all be happy.

Mr. Clarke (Vancouver Quadra): On April 15, the minister said in the House that he would consider an investigation into the failure of x-ray machines to detect the presence of four razor-sharp knives in hand baggage at Vancouver and Toronto International Airports. Last Monday the minister said in the House that he would inquire into the situation at some airports, such as Prince George, British Columbia, where passengers were not

[Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton).]

required to submit to security checks. Would the minister report on his investigations or does he categorize these questions as "small and mean"?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): No, Mr. Speaker, I am not going to categorize them that way. I am told that they are making some alterations in the airport and this is the reason there is not yet a security check there. This is the reason given to me, and as soon as the alteration is completed the security system will be re-established.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

SUGGESTED CANADIAN EFFORT TO HAVE NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA RESOLVE DIFFERENCES

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State for External Affairs and arises from the fact that world tension now seems to be shifting to the divided Koreas. Would Canada lend its good offices and efforts to try to have representatives of North Korea and South Korea meet on some neutral ground, preferably some international forum, to attempt to resolve their differences? From personal experience, as head of a parliamentary delegation to South Korea a year ago, I can state that nothing useful will emerge from meetings in the demilitarized zone between them.

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the hon. member's interest in this subject, and I will certainly give his representations consideration.

* * *

BAIL REFORM ACT

INQUIRY AS TO COMMENTS OF PROVINCIAL ATTORNEYS-GENERAL ON STATISTICS

Mr. Stan Darling (Parry Sound-Muskoka): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice who stated on February 4 that statistics on the operation of the Bail Reform Act have been provided to the provincial attorneys general so that they might be aware of the figures before they were made public. Has the minister received any comments from the attorneys general?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I would draw the attention of the hon. member to the answer to exactly the same question the day before yesterday.

* * *

INCOME TAX

POSSIBILITY OF IMPROVING METHOD OF POLICING CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION RECEIVING TAX EXEMPT DONATIONS

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Revenue. In light