

● (1420)

[English]

### CROWN CORPORATIONS

#### SALE OF DE HAVILLAND—BOEING'S ELIGIBILITY FOR PUBLIC FUNDING

**Hon. Bob Kaplan (York Centre):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the President of the Treasury Board. Yesterday the Minister emphasized the large amounts of money which he said the taxpayers would save if the Government sold de Havilland to Boeing. It seems that Boeing will be putting very little into de Havilland compared to the amount of money which the taxpayers will have to put into it under the deal which the Government has accepted. Has the Minister done any calculations with respect to the amount of money the taxpayers of Canada will have to put into this company after the sale to Boeing which will become the owner and beneficiary of all the profits of the company? Does he know and can he tell us how much Canadian taxpayers will continue to put into the company over the next five years?

**Hon. Robert de Cotret (President of the Treasury Board):** Mr. Speaker, certainly an awful lot less than was put in by the former Government.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. de Cotret:** I think I have mentioned in respect to this type of question in the House time and time again that, under Boeing, de Havilland will be eligible, like any other corporation, for the various programs of this Government. To the extent it wishes to invest, grow and create jobs, it will be eligible for all the assistance for which any other corporation in the country is eligible.

#### COST TO TAXPAYERS INQUIRY

**Hon. Bob Kaplan (York Centre):** Mr. Speaker, it is just not credible that the Government has made a big deal like this without having done a calculation with respect to how much the taxpayers will be called on to put into it.

Can the Minister confirm a calculation which I have done—

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Kaplan:** —which shows that over the next five years—

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Kaplan:** I think the Canadian people would be happy to have the Government's calculation. I insist the Government must have done one. Does the Minister dispute that the cost to the Canadian taxpayers with respect to selling this company and continuing with Boeing as the owner, if things go well, will be something in the neighbourhood of \$580 million over the next five years?

### Oral Questions

**Hon. Robert de Cotret (President of the Treasury Board):** Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member is trying to suggest that there will be a cost to taxpayers with respect to this transaction.

**Mr. Broadbent:** He is right, too.

**Mr. de Cotret:** This transaction is a good deal.

**Mr. Blaikie:** That is what you said when you bought your Edsel.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

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

**Mr. de Cotret:** I would like to quote briefly from an editorial which appeared in Winnipeg's *Free Press*:

If that happens—

**Mr. Frith:** Never mind the editorial, give us a cost analysis.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**Mr. de Cotret:**

—Boeing will have got itself, in the words of UAW Canada President Bob White, "a hell of a deal." But it will also be a hell of a deal for Canadians—

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

**Mr. de Cotret:**

—who will have in place a company which is employing Canadian workers, selling a Canadian product all over the world and paying taxes to Canadian governments.

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

#### NEGOTIATION OF SALE

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, the Minister knows that with the kind of write-offs he has given Boeing it will make profits for the next 10 to 15 years and not have to pay a cent in taxes.

**Mr. Hnatyshyn:** Move General Motors to Saskatoon.

**Mr. Dick:** Are you in the UAW's pocket?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**Mr. Rodriguez:** They are testy over there today.

**Mr. Broadbent:** Tory herds are difficult to control.

I do have a question for the Minister. Will he confirm that in the negotiations with respect to the sale of de Havilland to Boeing the Canadian side did not even raise the question of job guarantees or a buy-back provision in the event of a shut-down by Boeing? Will the Minister confirm that?

● (1425)

**Hon. Robert de Cotret (President of the Treasury Board):** Mr. Speaker, the whole question of job security was obviously brought up. It was a central concern of this Government, as job creation has been throughout our mandate. It was brought