

*Oral Questions***BONN ECONOMIC SUMMIT****ATTENDANCE OF PRIME MINISTER—USE OF EMBASSY RESIDENCE**

**Mr. John R. Rodriguez (Nickel Belt):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. He attended the recent Bonn conference, and in order for him to do so the Ambassador, his wife and daughter, were forced to leave their residence and move into a hotel 30 kilometres away from Bonn. The Hotel Koenigshof was not good enough for the Prime Minister, it was supposedly second class, but it was good enough for the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Minister of Finance.

● (1140)

Why was it necessary for the Prime Minister to place this inconvenience on a family when the Hotel Koenigshof was good enough for his key Ministers? Why could the Prime Minister not have stayed there as well? Or are we seeing the arrogance of Pierre Trudeau all over again?

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I want to rise and defend Pierre Trudeau against that unfair attack from the NDP. In point of fact, Mr. Speaker, the statement is completely false. Government officials in Bonn sought out an area where we could meet with Ministers and with Dr. Sylvia Ostrey and her group nightly, and every morning before breakfast. Such an area was unavailable, given the extreme shortage of hotel rooms.

I had no contact myself with the ambassador, nor did I express any wish one way or the other. However, my understanding is that our excellent ambassador in Bonn offered his residence, which has a large dining room which we used as a meeting room. Security considerations entered into the matter as well. There were security recommendations made.

The situation in Bonn was really so bad that when our team went over there they wanted to instal the Canadian journalists on barges. Only the diligence of Bill Fox and his colleagues got these distinguished journalists from a position on the river into an hotel.

**ATTENDANCE AT FUTURE CONFERENCES**

**Mr. John R. Rodriguez (Nickel Belt):** Mr. Speaker, in effect the Prime Minister is saying that there was no room at the inn. It is inconceivable that all the other delegations from France and the United States made proper arrangements and had room at hotels for that sort of thing. The Prime Minister should stand in the House and give his assurance that that kind of insensitive action on his part will not be repeated again.

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, as I understand it, most of the other delegations took over entire castles and moved right in. I took advantage of the hospitality of our own ambassador who was kind enough to offer for 48 hours, or whatever it was, the use of the Canadian

government residence in that place. He made the offer. I thought I would accept it because, if I were to accept a castle, the NDP would criticize me. I thought they would salute me for being this modest and for saving money in the process.

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**CANADA POST CORPORATION****IMPACT OF PROPOSED POSTAGE INCREASES ON PHOTOGRAPHY INDUSTRY**

**Mr. Stan Darling (Parry Sound-Muskoka):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister responsible for the Post Office. I have had lengthy conversations with persons involved in the photography business. Five hundred jobs in the photo finishing industry will likely be lost if the proposed postal increases for packages are approved. Bearing that in mind, would the Minister reconsider those increases? While he is doing a reassessment, can he assure Canadian photo finishers that their \$100 million a year mail order business will not fall prey to those proposed increases?

**Hon. Perrin Beatty (Minister of National Revenue):** Finally, Mr. Speaker, a question on the great issues of the day.

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

**Mr. Beatty:** Mr. Speaker, I want to assure the Hon. Member, who is an inveterate photographer himself, that the corporation will be meeting with representatives of the photo finishing industry to discuss the rate proposals. For the 60 day period following the gazetting of the rate increase applications, Cabinet sits as a regulator. We will be receiving representations from photo finishers and others with regard to their concerns. We will certainly take them seriously. I have encouraged the corporation to meet with all interested people to see whether these concerns can be resolved.

**Mr. Speaker:** Despite the stoppage of the clocks, may I advise Members that, as usual, Question Period will go until twelve o'clock. The Hon. Member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce-Lachine East.

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**CHARTER OF RIGHTS****LEGAL COSTS INCURRED BY OPERATION DISMANTLE**

**Hon. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce-Lachine East):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Justice I will direct my question to the Prime Minister. Yesterday the Supreme Court of Canada rendered a very important and historic judgment making Cabinet decisions subject to the Charter and reviewable by the courts. That important case would not have gone before the courts if it was not for Operation Dismantle, a voluntary, non-profit organization, taking the initiative of bringing that case to the courts.