

### SUPPLY AND SERVICES

#### LOCKHEED CONTRACT—REQUEST FOR TABLING OF ORIGINAL UNSIGNED CONTRACT

**Mr. Walter Baker (Grenville-Carleton):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Supply and Services. Yesterday on a point of order raised by the hon. member for New Westminster the minister undertook to table a letter of agreement dated March 31, 1976 and articles of a negotiated draft contract referred to in the letter of agreement involving the contract dealing with the Orion, but earlier in the question period he indicated that he would not table the unsigned contract. In view of what he said after the preliminary question by the hon. member for Victoria, has the minister considered his position, and would he reconsider his position and table the original unsigned contract requested by the hon. member for Victoria so that the House may have all the documents with respect to the matter.

**Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services):** Mr. Speaker, the rationale behind tabling the letter of agreement is that it constitutes an authorization of payment, and I said that I was also going to table the articles related to the letter of agreement because this was the whole contractual agreement we had with Lockheed. Otherwise, there is no contract as such, and I cannot table in the House an unsigned document.

**Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton):** I am sure that with the unanimous consent of the House the minister could table anything. In any event, the reason the question is asked—and I think the minister should know this—is that there may well be more to this in terms of public examination which should take place than merely the authorization of payment, terms and condition and a number of other things which were in the contemplation of the parties. Would the minister please reconsider and table the unsigned document, so that the House and not the minister alone can make a judgment with respect to what is contained in that document? Otherwise, the minister is withholding, perhaps, some information, and I wish he would reconsider the matter in that regard.

**Mr. Goyer:** This is totally untrue. As a matter of fact, I stated in the House that I was going to table the contract in the eventuality of the signing of the contract, so that would have then become public. We had nothing to hide. However, the problem is that now there is no legal obligation, according to this proposed contract, so why should it be tabled? In the event there is another contract, of course, it would be.

**Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton):** The minister asked why it should be tabled. The reason that these questions are being asked is that there are reports that Lockheed and the government may have been discussing matters yesterday, and in order to consider the results, if any, of those discussions I think it is fair and important to hon. mem-

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bers and to the country to know the original basis of discussion so that judgments can be made. In view of that would the minister consider again—he can consider it overnight—tabling this unsigned contract, in view of the reports that negotiations are continuing with Lockheed? How can we make a comparison?

● (1140)

**Mr. Goyer:** I am sorry to say, Mr. Speaker, that the arguments of the hon. member have not changed my mind.

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### REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

#### REQUEST FOR MEASURES TO IMPROVE ECONOMY OF ATLANTIC PROVINCES

**Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion but no doubt the acting minister can handle it. It concerns the recent report of the Atlantic Development Council, a body established by the minister's department and is in regard to the effect of the Regional Development Incentives Act upon the economy of Atlantic Canada. Considering the depressing and discouraging findings of the council, can the minister advise if consideration will be given to new programs and planning which might actually improve the Atlantic economy and reverse the slowdown which the report notes?

**Hon. Robert K. Andras (Acting Minister of Regional Economic Expansion):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of my colleague, as acting minister I shall be glad to convey the representations to him on his return.

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### NATIONAL GALLERY

#### POSSIBILITY OF CHANGE IN RELATIONSHIPS WITH MUSEUMS CORPORATION

**Mr. Howard Johnston (Okanagan-Kootenay):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State in his capacity as the minister responsible for lending assistance to the arts. It arises out of the resignation of the director of the National Gallery. What consideration is being given to a restructuring of the National Museums Corporation and its relationship with the National Gallery as the search for a new director of the gallery begins?

**Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State):** Mr. Speaker, that is not being contemplated at this time. As the hon. member knows representatives of the National Museums Corporation appeared before the Standing Committee on Broadcasting, Films and Assistance to the Arts last year. They spent some time discussing the structure and answered most of the questions put by members at that time. I have reread the testimony and have the impression that there was some support for the structure. We should not lose sight of the fact that in the years since the corporation has been in place we now have 25 associate museums established across Canada which did not exist as such before and we have 30 new national exhibition cen-