

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

intention of the government to continue making the treaty payments, or will this be a matter for negotiation?

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Chrétien:** Mr. Speaker, we do not intend now to discontinue the payments we are making to the Indian people under the treaties.

[*English*]

**Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North):** I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the terms of reference under which the commissioner will operate be discussed in detail with the Indians before the commissioner is appointed and given his duties to perform?

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Chrétien:** Mr. Speaker, with regard to the Indians and their claims, we have been discussing such matters with them for a year. However, the final decision always rests with the government which must assume responsibility for the decision.

**Mr. Speaker:** Does the hon. member for Témiscamingue wish to ask a supplementary question?

**Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue):** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Témiscamingue.

SUBMISSIONS BY CAUGHNAWAGA IROQUOIS—  
REPRESENTATION ON COMMISSION

**Mr. Caouette:** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the minister.

Could he tell us first of all—my question is twofold—whether the Caughnawaga Iroquois have made representations asking to come under either the federal government or the provincial government?

Secondly, have the Caughnawaga Indians asked to be represented on the commission with a view to submitting claims to or dealing with the federal government? Finally, and this is vital, do they wish to come under provincial rather than federal jurisdiction?

**Mr. Chrétien:** Mr. Speaker, we intend to have discussions with all Indians in every province, including the province of Quebec. When we go to the province of Quebec to negotiate, we will meet with the leaders of the Quebec Brotherhood of Indians and those of the provincial government.

[Mr. Korchinski.]

[*English*]

REQUEST FOR OUTLINE OF TERMS OF  
REFERENCE OF COMMISSION—RIGHTS  
OF ST. REGIS RESERVE INDIANS

**Hon. Roberi L. Stanfield:** A supplementary question Mr. Speaker. If the minister is not prepared to give the house an idea of the terms of reference of the commission, is he not prepared to give the house a brief description of the function and task the commissioner is to perform?

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Chrétien:** Mr. Speaker, if the Leader of the Opposition had taken the trouble to read the government's statement on its policy concerning Indian affairs, he would have found there some most useful information.

[*English*]

**Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In connection with the government's new policy on Indian affairs, can the minister give his assurance that nothing will be done to limit the existing rights and privileges of Indians residing on the Canadian side at the St. Regis reserve and working in plants on the United States side?

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Chrétien:** Mr. Speaker, since the matter of customs duties and the free crossing of the border by Indians come under the Minister of National Revenue, I think the question should be put to him.

[*English*]

**Mr. Dinsdale:** A further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of clarification. In connection with the situation where a reservation straddles the international boundary, could the minister make a statement on motions or persuade his colleague the Minister of National Revenue to make a statement that will clarify the matter?

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Chrétien:** Mr. Speaker, that matter is the responsibility of the Minister of National Revenue. I will inform him of the hon. member's representations.

[*English*]

RESEARCH

REQUEST FOR CESSATION OF DEVELOPMENT  
OF CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

**Mr. David Lewis (York South):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the right hon. Prime Minister. It arises out of the report on chemical and biological weapons