

report of the minister and the communiqué that is referred to mentions that these guide lines which have been set out by the American government are intended to act toward reducing the deficit of the United States' external accounts. Recognizing that the United States does have a balance of payments problem and that it is a very acute problem for them, I find there is no mention at all of the tremendous imbalance in our own trading situation with the United States.

Certainly it is a good thing for us to consider their problems, but what about our problems? While we may be able to ease our own conscience in this regard because of our comparatively favourable balance in the over-all world trade picture, it would be much more favourable than it is if it were not for our imbalance of trade with the United States.

Another point I am concerned about is whether or not these guide lines will permit the United States subsidiaries in Canada to float loans in Canada for the international operations of these companies in their development outside both the United States and Canada. Just the other day the Chrysler Corporation in Canada announced that they were going to raise \$50 million outside of the United States for their international operations. Does this mean they are going to do it in Canada? If so, this matter should certainly be clarified as well.

The statement also referred to the Viet Nam situation. I gather from the remarks of Secretary Rusk that he agrees that the contribution of Canada in so far as the Viet Nam picture is concerned can best be made through the International Control Commission. I wonder whether this means that the so-called secret letters that are supposed to have passed between the President of the United States and the Prime Minister of our country now indicate that the Americans have changed their policy from that of a few months ago in relation to our contribution.

I find, also, reference in today's press to the fact that the United States maritime unions are concerned about United States companies trading with North Viet Nam and are planning a waterfront strike to protest against this action. Can it be that Canada is trading with North Viet Nam as well? We would like answers to these questions and I believe the minister must elaborate in much greater detail than he has so far.

We note that the headlines about this conference say that it has been most profitable

and productive and that the exchanges covered numerous topics. I think the minister owes it to the house to report on some of the discussions as they relate to topics other than just the guide lines and the Viet Nam picture. We trust that the government will see fit to report on these matters, because not only do I think it is our right in this house to know what the situation is but the Canadian public should have more information in this regard.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Perhaps hon. members would allow me at this point to bring to the attention of the house the provisions of provisional standing order 15 (2a) regarding ministerial statements and comments. I shall not read the standing order to hon. members and I have purposely up till now refrained from bringing this matter again to the attention of hon. members so that it would not be suggested that I am pointing an accusing finger at any particular commentator. But in my view, when we spend something over 40 minutes commenting on a statement at this time of the day we are in some way offending the requirements of the provisional standing order dealing with this matter.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am sure all hon. members will want to take this into consideration whenever ministerial statements and comments are made.

#### ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

GEORGE VICTOR SPENCER—TABLING  
OF CORRESPONDENCE

**Mr. John R. Matheson (Parliamentary Secretary to Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I should like the permission of the house to table copies of correspondence between the solicitor for Mr. George Victor Spencer and officials of the Post Office Department and the Privy Council, referred to in last Friday's debate.

**Mr. Speaker:** Does the parliamentary secretary have the consent of the house to table the documents he has referred to?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

• (3:20 p.m.)

#### CANADA PENSION PLAN AMENDMENT

CONTRIBUTIONS TO AND BENEFITS  
BY HOUSEWIVES

**Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo South)** moved the first reading of Bill No. C-135, to amend the Canada Pension Plan (housewives contributions and benefits).