

upon, namely 104 hours every three months. I was told that some employees worked from 160 to 180 hours overtime over a three-month period. Mr. Morrison also told about some defective parts of the company's equipment to the federal security agents.

As you can see, according to the above-mentioned events, Mr. Morrison did not precisely win the company's sympathy before this incident and one can easily conclude that the events previous to the incident influenced in some way Air Canada's decision to penalize Mr. Morrison because of his three-hour absence on the 1st of July.

[English]

After some exchange of correspondence with Mr. Morrison, I wrote further letters to the Minister of Transport and to Mr. D. W. Benson, assistant to the president of Air Canada, on July 3, 1974. During the period from January to July, 1974, Mr. Morrison had also contacted the hon. member for Vaudreuil (Mr. Herbert) and had written letters himself directly to the Minister of Transport and the Minister of Labour (Mr. Munro).

● (2220)

The hearing of the Labour Relations Board was scheduled for September 23, 1974, and subpoenas were sent to a number of Air Canada employees to attend. The day of the hearing, it was cancelled because of the illness of one of the Board members, I believe the chairman, and Air Canada again demonstrated a reprehensible attitude toward its employees when, in spite of its internal regulations requiring that employees acting as court witnesses be carried on the payroll with pay, Air Canada refused to pay the employees who had appeared on behalf of Mr. Morrison.

I again wrote to the Minister of Transport on October 15 pointing out to him that Air Canada's refusal to pay the witnesses contradicted its own regulations and confirmed to me that Air Canada was deliberately and systematically trying to embarrass and punish Mr. Morrison and anyone having to do with his case. I pointed out that this continuing attitude was poisoning labour relations not only at the Air Canada power plant shop, but elsewhere in the Air Canada Dorval organization.

At the December 4 hearing, Air Canada again refused to pay the witnesses, even though they were subpoenaed by Mr. Morrison and, under company regulations, it was obliged to pay them their salaries.

I ask the parliamentary secretary who is here representing the minister tonight, to deliver strong urgings to Air Canada to rectify this miserable, miserly attitude toward its employees—

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Morin):** Order, please. The time allotted to the hon. member has expired.

#### Adjournment Motion

**Mr. Joseph-Philippe Guay (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion):** Madam Speaker, first I wish to draw to your attention the fact that at page 3218 of *Hansard* for February 14, the hon. member for Laprairie (Mr. Watson) stated:

Mr. Speaker, I wish to raise a question of privilege concerning a position taken by Air Canada—

I wish to emphasize the words "Air Canada". In a question directed to the minister this afternoon, the hon. member said "It relates to the incident in Montreal on December 4, when an Air Canada representative—" I emphasize the word representative. This evening, the hon. member again referred to the Air Canada representative.

This afternoon, in response to the hon. member's question, the Minister of Transport (Mr. Marchand) said, and I quote:

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, the information I got from Air Canada is that this corporation has never instructed its legal adviser to hold that stance before the Canada Labour Relations Board. Therefore, that stance has been a purely personal one, and Air Canada dissociates itself completely from what has been said.

That is the answer given by the minister.

[English]

I think that even using only the part of the Air Canada counsel statement, as reported in *Hansard* on February 14, page 3218, it is obvious that the legal counsel was speaking on his own behalf. In fact the statement attributed to the Air Canada legal counsel was made after the union had withdrawn its complaint. It is my understanding that the union has re-filed the complaint and the board is now dealing with it. I do not think I should comment on the specific case.

However, the hon. member for Laprairie this afternoon, in his supplementary question to the Minister of Transport stated that Air Canada was in violation of its own regulations requiring payment of witness fees, requiring payments for its employees as witnesses and refusing to pay employees who appeared that day as witnesses on behalf of Mr. Morrison.

I believe it is the contention of Air Canada that the company regulations do not provide for indemnification by the company of the employee witnesses. Employees are granted time off with pay for jury duty, coroner's inquests or court duty. However, the circumstances in this case do not fall into any of the above categories.

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Morin):** Order, please. The motion to adjourn the House is now deemed to have been adopted. Accordingly, this House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 11 o'clock a.m.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10:28 p.m.