

*Oral Questions*

**Hon. Pat Carney (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Mr. Speaker, I just explained that if he wants to know if an offer was made for the refinery he should direct his question to Gulf. I was not made aware of all the offers made or rejected. This was a deal between one company and another company. The Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources would not be involved in a transaction between two private companies.

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**CROWN CORPORATIONS****PROPOSED MERGER OF DE HAVILLAND AND CANADAIR—  
GOVERNMENT POSITION**

**Mr. Stan J. Hovdebo (Prince Albert):** Mr. Speaker, I, too, have a question for the President of the Treasury Board, an unanswered question which has been put before.

**Some Hon. Members:** Nine!

**Mr. Hovdebo:** Okay, number nine. Why did the Government abandon its election campaign promise to create an aerospace strategy which would combine de Havilland and Canadair into one Crown corporation?

**Hon. Robert de Cotret (President of the Treasury Board):** I have answered that, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Rodriguez:** We did not get an answer.

**Mr. de Cotret:** The Minister of Finance talked about that. I talked about that. Obviously we looked at that alternative. It was judged not to be in the best interests of Canadians. It was judged not to be in the best interests of Canadian taxpayers. It was judged not to be in the best interests of the industry. It was judged not to be in the best interests of the employees. We found that the best deal we could possibly make was the deal we are making now with the Boeing Corporation.

**SALE OF DE HAVILLAND—EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP OPTION**

**Mr. Stan J. Hovdebo (Prince Albert):** Number ten, Mr. Speaker. Why was the employee ownership option suggested by Frank Stronack of the CDIC rejected in the de Havilland deal?

**Hon. Robert de Cotret (President of the Treasury Board):** Mr. Speaker, the possibility of selling de Havilland to its employees was looked at very carefully. It did not meet the basic criteria we were trying to fulfil, namely, to give de Havilland access to—

**Mr. Deans:** To give it to a U.S. company.

**Mr. de Cotret:** Would you let me finish the answer, please?

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. de Cotret:** Do you want an answer? You have been asking me for answers all week. Do you want answers?

There were two important elements which had to be fulfilled: giving de Havilland access to a world-wide marketing organization of a first class nature—

**Mr. Deans:** They already have that.

**Mr. de Cotret:**—and financial strength to go ahead with its R and D and technology development program.

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION OF MEMORANDUM OF  
UNDERSTANDING**

**Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, if this is such a great deal for Canada, as the Minister has tried to outline this morning, why will he not publish the deal? Why will he not give Parliament a copy of the acquisition agreement and a copy of the memorandum of understanding with Boeing? If it is such a great deal, let us know what it is. Will he also let us know what conditions still have to be fulfilled between now and when the deal finally closes in about 80 days?

● (1150)

**Hon. Robert de Cotret (President of the Treasury Board):** Mr. Speaker, all of the specific items that pertain to the deal were answered in the House earlier. They include the price, the book value, the tax issues, the credit notes, the world product mandate, Government equity, the royalties, the product liability insurance, the corporate liabilities, the Government programs, Defence Industry Productivity Program, EDP, Government content, supplier commitments, R and D, insurance, new investment. If the Hon. Member needs any more I will refer him to public information that was made available to all Members of the House.

It was reported again in the *Financial Times* this week. All the details are available. When the final deal is concluded, hopefully at the end of the year, the details of that deal which can be made public from a commercial point of view will be made public.

**PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO SHAREHOLDERS**

**Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, the shareholders in this deal are the people of Canada through Crown corporations. The shareholders have a right to know the conditions against which their company is being sold. The simple and direct way to do this is to table the documents. What is he hiding?

**Hon. Robert de Cotret (President of the Treasury Board):** Mr. Speaker, I believe that the shareholders in this country are fully aware of what we are doing.

**Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra):** They sure are.