

QUEBEC—INFORMATION CONCERNING ALLEGED
DISCUSSIONS ON ESTABLISHMENT OF
PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the right hon. Prime Minister. Yesterday the Prime Minister said that all last week members of the opposition had been spreading rumours—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): —with respect to the discussions regarding the establishment of a provisional government in the province of Quebec. Last night a number of members of the Press Gallery appearing on a television show said that rather than getting these rumours from the opposition they got them from persons highly placed in the government. In view of the serious nature of these rumours, is the Prime Minister prepared to have either an investigation by a committee of this House or an independent inquiry made into the source of these rumours in order that we may know who is actually responsible for disseminating them?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Listening attentively to the question, it would appear to me that last night the press began spreading some more rumours, and the hon. member is now repeating them.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact there is a growing suspicion that these rumours were disseminated in a clumsy attempt to explain the government's imposition of the War Measures Act, may I ask—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. It seems to me that the hon. gentleman is now making a speech. I appreciate that he may have a supplementary question and I would invite him to put it.

Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, in view of that may I ask the Prime Minister if he can assure the House that none of these statements have come from any of his colleagues in the cabinet?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I do not know if the hon. member is asking me seriously to control everything which is said, not of a secret nature, by all my ministers, but that is not my way of proceeding.

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[Translation]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

SOUTH AFRICA—EMBARGO ON EXPORT OF ARMS—
REPRESENTATIONS BY CANADA TO GREAT BRITAIN

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Secretary of State for External Affairs, I should like to put my question to the Prime Minister.

Following Canada's decision announced yesterday in the House to no longer sell aircraft piston engines and spare parts to South Africa on account of its apartheid

Inquiries of the Ministry

policy, has the government considered the possibility of making representations to the British government to ensure that it will abide by the United Nations policy towards South Africa?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the House knows of course that I was in touch with the British government some months ago in respect of this matter.

Mr. Rondeau: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

Could the Prime Minister tell us whether or not he has received any reply from Great Britain in this connection?

Mr. Trudeau: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I have been told in quite a general way that my representations would be taken into consideration.

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[English]

IMMIGRATION

ADMISSION TO CANADA OF BLACK PANTHER MEMBER,
RAYMOND HEWITT

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. It has to do with a revolutionary by the name of Hewitt who describes himself as minister of education in the Black Panthers. He is to speak in Winnipeg later this week to a group within the University of Manitoba, and objection has been taken by various officials of the university to the admission into Canada of this person. In view of all the circumstances existing today, is the minister prepared to direct Hewitt's return when he arrives at the frontier instead of allowing him to come into Canada and stir up potential bloodshed by his advocacy of revolution?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, in reply to that question I think I should say two basic things besides saying that I am not sure that the events of these days should too much colour our judgment in regard to all of these matters. First, it would be one thing in any case to be sure how the minister could direct such a thing in terms of practical possibilities while at the same time welcoming the many American visitors who come to this country. Second, it has tended to be the policy of the department and the government not lightly to turn away people who are coming to this country at the invitation of a responsible body, which in this case I understand to be the Student Union of the University of Manitoba. On the basis of the information known to my officials I do not think it can be said that the gentleman in question is in a prohibited class.

Mr. Diefenbaker: This is one time that the minister speaks the language of the NDP. May I ask the minister whether it is a fact that the RCMP got in touch with the Department of Immigration with a view to having this man prevented from entering Canada?