

[English]

**Hon. Flora MacDonald (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, that question was posed earlier today to the Prime Minister. I want to reiterate to the hon. member that there are responsibilities which our diplomatic staff must carry on in a situation, even one as grave and one which we dislike as much as this particular situation. There are Canadians living in Iran who might want to leave or who would need the services of our embassy at any time. There are services which we are offering to American nationals who are there without any kind of embassy services of their own. There are, of course, reasons for our being on the ground in Iran where we might help to resolve this situation, which we could not do if we were not present.

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### SHIPBUILDING

INQUIRY WHETHER NEW FERRY BOAT CONTRACT WILL BE AWARDED TO QUEBEC SHIPYARD

**Mr. John Rodriguez (Nickel Belt):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of State (Transport). In view of the fact that Canadian National at this moment is considering bids for the construction of a ferry to be used on the Canadian east coast, and in view of the fact that the Canadian shipyard industry in Quebec is now in serious trouble, having already laid off some 1,000 workers with another 600 to 800 workers facing lay-off, is the minister prepared to do his utmost on behalf of the Government of Canada to persuade CN to award the ferry boat contract to a Quebec shipyard?

**Hon. J. Robert Howie (Minister of State (Transport)):** Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for his representations, and I will bring them to the attention of the president of CN Marine.

**Mr. Rodriguez:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Crosbie:** Slow down, tiger.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Nickel Belt.

**Mr. Rodriguez:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was not sure whether you would hear me. My supplementary question is to the Minister of Supply and Services. Is the minister prepared to contact CN Marine to impress upon them the need for this contract to be awarded to a Quebec shipyard, in order to keep that industry going in the province of Quebec?

[Translation]

**Hon. Roch La Salle (Minister of Supply and Services):** Mr. Speaker, since my colleague emphasized the importance of the Quebec shipbuilding industry project, I want to assure the hon. member that I will do everything in my power to co-operate with all my colleagues in this House, in order that the Quebec

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shipbuilding industry may offer jobs, because the local people are in great need of it.

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[English]

### PRIVILEGE

MR. PAPROSKI—GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING IN ETHNIC PRESS—EXPLANATORY STATEMENT BY MINISTER

**Hon. Steven E. Paproski (Minister of State for Fitness and Amateur Sport and Multiculturalism):** Mr. Speaker, my question of privilege arises out of a question in *Hansard* on page 1492. I do not wish to deliberately mislead the House or the hon. member for York-Centre (Mr. Kaplan). There has been no cutback in the budget for ethnic press advertising. Moneys are frozen pending the results of a study commissioned by the Department of the Secretary of State to evaluate the effectiveness of advertising in the ethnic press and to determine the information needs of ethno-cultural groups in Canada. It is anticipated that decisions on future advertising programs can be taken within one month's time.

### ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

### VETERANS AFFAIRS

First and second reports of Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs—Mr. Whittaker.

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### FEDERAL DISTRICT COMMISSION

ACQUISITION OF CERTAIN LANDS

**Hon. Walter Baker (for the Minister of Public Works)** moved the first reading of Bill S-10 (from the Senate), to confirm the authority of the Federal District Commission to have acquired certain lands.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

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[Translation]

### QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated with an asterisk.)

**Mr. David Kilgour (Parliamentary Secretary to President of Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 78, 105, 106, 111, 112, 200, 247, 296, 324, 388 and 437.