

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

gest this in all seriousness because my own experience in respect of conspirators is that they suddenly find themselves speaking up when there is the possibility of a substantial reward for doing so.

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

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** I have asked the Prime Minister a question. Silence does not answer a question that cannot interfere to any degree with security in regard to this unfortunate matter.

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, I was remaining silent only until after the applause had subsided.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** That is fine.

**Mr. Trudeau:** I intend to answer the question whether any consideration has been given; the answer is yes.

*[Translation]*

ABDUCTION OF SENIOR BRITISH TRADE COMMISSIONER—SUGGESTED IMPOSITION OF DEATH PENALTY FOR KIDNAPPING

**Hon. Martial Asselin (Charlevoix):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask the Prime Minister a supplementary question.

Following yesterday's events, does he intend to recommend to the Minister of Justice that the death penalty be applied in cases of kidnapping, as it is done in the United States, as a deterrent measure?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I do not think that in the past, and particularly in the last 48 hours, the government has considered changing the law to this effect. The matter could perhaps be discussed once this unfortunate matter is concluded.

*[English]*

**Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River):** I have a supplementary question. In the hope, as I believe is the case, that the government is doing all within its power in this very unfortunate situation, can the Prime Minister advise whether there will be any communication with the government of Cuba regarding this matter in view of the circumstances?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Well, it would be helpful to know what the hon. member is suggesting—that we should make a deal with Cuba to receive the prisoners, or what is in the hon. member's mind?

*[Mr. Diefenbaker.]*

*[Translation]*

ABDUCTION OF SENIOR BRITISH TRADE COMMISSIONER—TRAINING OF TERRORISTS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

**Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question to the Prime Minister. He stated that he has not considered amending the legislation on capital punishment, and everybody understands that he cannot do so today. However, I would like to ask him whether the government is seriously considering the possibility of following more closely the movements of certain lunatics from Quebec who are going to Cuba, Palestine or Jordan to train as professional killers. Does the government intend to watch closely the movements of those individuals?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, once again we would have to know who those people are. If the hon. member has in mind certain persons about whom he has information, it is his duty, in my opinion, to get in touch with the police. But if he is simply thinking of people who are travelling for various reasons, I would of course point out to him that we cannot keep watch on them all.

**Mr. Caouette:** Mr. Speaker, I do not wish to make a statement but simply to ask a supplementary question.

Is the Prime Minister aware that not so long ago Mr. Pierre Nadeau, of the CBC, met in Palestine with two terrorists who had gone there in order to train for performing selective assassination in Canada? While our police forces are unable to find such people, newspapermen can. Would he explain this situation to the House?

*[English]*

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**ENERGY**

NATURAL GAS—SEQUENCE OF APPROVAL OF EXPORT TO UNITED STATES AND CONSTRUCTION OF PIPELINE

**Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Did the National Energy Board approve the construction of the pipeline north of the international border to take gas to the United States before the cabinet had authorized the export of 6.3 trillion cubic feet of gas to that country?