

*Oral Questions**[English]*

**Hon. Elmer M. MacKay (Minister of Public Works):** Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to respond to my colleague on this part of his question as well.

In this particular instance I wrote to a solicitor almost two years ago for one of the people who felt aggrieved because she was a previous owner of part of the property. I said at that time to the solicitor, Marco Gaggino of Stikeman, Elliott, that at the time the federal government decided to negotiate directly with Carrière Bernier Limitée because of circumstances.

I will read the letter exactly: "Because of existing circumstances that company had expressed an interest in buying these properties and it was according to us a realistic buyer because he owned most of the north and south of the federal property. On reflection", and I repeat this to my colleague, "the department should have proceeded with a public tender call which is my intention with the other parcel of land".

I agree with him that in this case there was a departure from good public policy, and I apologize for that.

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**HIBERNIA**

**Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor—St. Clair):** Mr. Speaker, my question for the Prime Minister.

MIL Davie has released a shameful letter from the former minister of energy which indicates that he went cap in hand to the Hibernia consortium begging for Canadian participation in the construction of the super-modules, the contract for which ultimately went to Italy and South Korea. With a 25 per cent tariff forgiveness in hand they told him to forget about it.

Does this not indicate that in fact the government did diddley-squat to ensure that the \$3 billion spent on Hibernia would provide the long-term value added benefits to Canadian shipyards that were in fact promised by this government when Hibernia was raised in this House?

**Mr. John A. MacDougall (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Mr. Speaker, I must mention to my colleague on the other side that the contract was made over a year ago by the Hibernia management division. The decision to review was made

by the owners at the highest level. The government has no legal or contractual means by which to force the owners to allow Canadian companies to bid.

**Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor—St. Clair):** Mr. Speaker, my question is very simple. With Canadian taxpayers paying \$3 billion for this we would expect long-term industrial benefits.

Why would he consider that anything but the most utter incompetence when those benefits are not coming to Canadians?

**Mr. John A. MacDougall (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Mr. Speaker, before my colleague blows a gasket maybe he should understand that 80 per cent of the products, to the tune of \$800 million, were purchased in Canada so far employing Canadians and giving Canadian firms the opportunity with regard to the purchase of materials.

I think the hon. member is off beat with what he is trying to say.

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**VIOLENCE**

**Mrs. Edna Anderson (Simcoe Centre):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the minister of revenue or the minister acting on his behalf.

I do know that the government is looking at how to stop killer cards and related board games from entering Canada. However I do not feel it is moving fast enough.

I cannot help but think of that horrific murder in Liverpool where two ten-year olds abducted and murdered a two-year old child. It would seem that board games that have as a goal the collection of dead babies treat such anti-social behaviour as socially acceptable. Well, it is not. My constituents and I want to know what progress has been made to block the entry into Canada of these horrid games.

• (1455)

**Hon. Elmer M. MacKay (Minister of Public Works):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the minister of revenue who is out of the country on important business, I assure my colleague that according to my information all customs officers have been put on full alert. These games are being interdicted as they come to the attention of the department.