

produced by the Canadian Participation Secretariat in conjunction with the Canadian host secretariat of the Department of External Affairs, carries the statement that costs of the Habitat Forum program at Jericho Park in Vancouver "will be paid under a specially created joint federal-provincial scheme", can the minister now assure the House that this statement reflects government policy? Will the hon. gentleman consult with his colleagues so that the residents of Vancouver can be assured of the proper funding for this international housing conference?

Hon. Barney Danson (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I would point out that it is not a housing conference but a conference on human settlements. In answer to the question I can give assurances that there is adequate funding for the completion of the physical arrangements and the programming for Habitat Forum at Jericho Beach.

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IMMIGRATION

ALLEGED ILLEGAL POLITICAL ACTIVITY OF CHILEAN REFUGEES IN CANADA—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. Otto Jelinek (High Park-Humber Valley): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In view of the fact that Chilean refugees were obliged to sign a special conditional document disallowing them from engaging in international subversive political activities in Canada before receiving a special ministerial permit, could the minister advise the House whether he is aware that precisely such international political activities are in fact taking place in Canada organized by Chilean leftists and that as recently as September 12 the former Vice-President of Chile, Clodomiro Almeyda, was a speaker at such a rally, illegal in terms of the special permits, which incidentally was chaired by the hon. member for Greenwood.

Some hon. Members: Oh!

Mr. Jelinek: If the minister is aware of these circumstances is he prepared to deal with the illegalities as they relate to his department?

● (1440)

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, this is the first I have heard of it.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT OF CUBAN DIPLOMAT IN POLITICAL ACTIVITY OF CHILEAN REFUGEES—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. Otto Jelinek (High Park-Humber Valley): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question which I will direct to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of these illegal meetings that are taking place, could the minister advise the House whether or not he is aware that at least one foreign communist aligned diplomat,

Oral Questions

Rafael Reyes, an officer in the consulate of Cuba in Toronto, is involved in directly supporting and assisting the revolutionary left-wing Chilean refugee movement in Toronto that is working to overthrow the present Chilean government and, if so, what steps is the minister prepared to take to rectify what could be another internationally embarrassing situation for Canada?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I will have to take a look at that question.

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MANPOWER

LAY-OFFS BY FALCONBRIDGE NICKEL COMPANY—GOVERNMENT ACTION TO ASCERTAIN REASON

Mr. John Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration and it is possible that the Minister of Labour can also enlighten the House. In view of Falconbridge Nickel Company's announcement last Friday of a two phase lay-off of over 1,000 workers in the Sudbury basin, have either the Minister of Manpower or the Minister of Labour been informed of these lay-offs prior to last Friday's announcement and, if so, has this trans-national corporation given the government any reason or reasons for such insensitive actions?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, any notice of lay-off would be a matter for my colleague the minister of manpower. I am not aware of any contractual obligation coming under the purview of my department but I will certainly look into the matter.

Mr. Rodriguez: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the minister of manpower. In light of the fact that Falconbridge's major stated reason for the lay-offs was an alleged softening of world nickel markets, and in view of the fact that the International Nickel Company is not laying off people but, on the contrary, is authorizing excessive amounts of overtime in its Sudbury basin nickel operations, has the minister already asked or does he intend to ask Falconbridge to justify its action in light of this apparent contradiction, especially considering the fact that Falconbridge is maintaining full production in its plants in the Dominican Republic and Norway?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, there was no direct conveyance of this information to me in the last few days. I will check with the department to see whether any contact has been made.

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[Translation]

AIRPORTS

INQUIRY WHETHER MONEY ALLOCATED FOR INSTALLATION OF INSTRUMENT LANDING FACILITIES AT VAL-D'OR

Mr. Armand Caouette (Villeneuve): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the President of the Treasury Board.