

*Oral Questions***AIR CANADA****CONSTRUCTION OF NEW COMPUTER CENTRE AT DORVAL—EFFECT ON WINNIPEG CENTRE**

Mr. Dan McKenzie (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Transport. It concerns the construction by Air Canada of a new computer centre at Dorval Airport. Can the minister assure the House that the building of this new facility will not render the Air Canada computer centre in Winnipeg obsolete?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I will be glad to ask for a report from Air Canada on this.

Mr. McKenzie: During that inquiry, will the minister find out whether all Air Canada reservation and computer services are eventually to operate from Dorval?

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**VIET NAM—REPORTED SHELLING OF CONTROL COMMISSION OUTPOST—EFFECT ON CANADIAN PARTICIPATION**

Mr. Doug Rowland (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Has the minister any definite information he can present to the House respecting the reported shelling of an ICCS outpost in Viet Nam, and can he say whether this incident has in any way affected his judgment about how long Canada should remain there?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the answer to the first part of the question is that we have no direct information yet from Saigon. We are expecting it at any time.

VIET NAM—REQUEST FOR DEBATE ON CONTINUING ROLE OF CANADA IN CONTROL COMMISSION AND PLIGHT OF CIVILIAN PRISONERS

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister take this opportunity to say whether or not an opportunity will be given to the House soon to debate the whole question of the continuing role of Canada in the ICCS and another question that is disturbing many Canadians, the plight of civilian prisoners in that country?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, before the end of the month the government must, of course, make a decision whether we will continue to participate in the International Control Commission. I will make that announcement in the House. On the question of whether it would be desirable or necessary to have a debate at that time, I certainly have a sympathetic attitude and will give the suggestion very careful consideration, as I said some weeks ago. With regard to the question of civilian prisoners, very slow progress is being made. There have been some exchanges of a few hundred prisoners on each side recently. Both

[Mr. Stanbury.]

sides charge, of course, that there are hundreds of thousands of civilians still incarcerated. Unfortunately, very little progress is being made. This is one of the aspects of the peace agreement that is so disturbing.

* * *

● (1500)

[Translation]

INDUSTRY**ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES IN PROVINCES TO PROMOTE SMALL ENTERPRISES—MINISTER'S POSITION**

Mr. Eudore Allard (Rimouski): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a question of the hon. Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

With reference to discussions held at the last federal-provincial conference of ministers of industry, trade and commerce, can the hon. minister inform this House if he intends to take the necessary steps to establish as soon as possible offices of his department in each province so as to give further assistance to small undertakings?

[English]

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I did discuss this question with the provincial ministers. I indicated there would be additional regional offices opened in the course of the present fiscal year.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**PROVISION OF AID TO WEST AFRICAN NATIONS STRICKEN BY FAMINE**

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I wish to address my question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the urgent appeal from the Food and Agriculture Organization for help to relieve the famine in the five western African nations where some 10 million people are either dead or in a state of malnutrition, is there anything the minister can do to take the lead among Canadian ministers and among other countries by bringing some help to this hard-pressed area?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Yes, Mr. Speaker. We have already anticipated this question. As I announced in Moncton on Friday, we have already given \$2.5 million in food aid to the area surrounding the Sahara. We are looking very sympathetically at requests for help because this is a very serious situation.