

*Olympic Boycott*

hear, I will be pleased to reply to it, but I cannot distinguish the words—

**An hon. Member:** Name one.

**Mr. MacGuigan:** One instance? Up to 15 National Research Council scientists will not be allowed to go to the U.S.S.R. this summer to do research under the aegis of the Soviet Academy of Sciences. I can name a whole list, if the hon. member wants to know. The opposition critic says that these are things which they have started. We have adopted their policies in this respect. This affects a lot of students, professors, and cultural performers, such as the Stratford ensemble, Karen Kain and Frank Augustyn who will not be making their tour of the U.S.S.R., and so on. There are many different forms of endeavour which are being cancelled. It is not really possible to equalize the burden exactly because it is different in various areas, but I think we have done our best, as I believe the previous government did, to have a wide-ranging program which would be as fair as possible in various sectors.

**Mr. Nielsen:** What new initiatives are you taking?

**Mr. Douglas Roche (Edmonton South):** Since the question of the Olympic boycott goes right to the heart of Canada's foreign policy and lets us see the sense of direction which the government will take in the 1980s, which are already starting out as a very dangerous period in world history, is the minister now prepared to have a parliamentary examination of Canada's foreign policy in a way that has not been done in the past ten years, the basis for such an examination already having been laid by officials in his department, in both external affairs and CIDA, and an examination by Parliament of the total foreign policy in a way that would turn out to be of assistance to him in the formulation of a policy which could win support from the Canadian people in this decade?

**Mr. MacGuigan:** As the hon. member knows, there is always that opportunity for a review of the foreign policy by standing committees in considering estimates and, from time to time, on other orders of reference. If he is referring to a specific order of reference, however, I might say that I have under consideration the best way in which to review specifically the question of aid to other countries. In my view that is something which, in some form or other, has to be given a fairly broad scrutiny. I want to get a good deal of input, and I welcome any suggestions by opposition members as well on how that best could be accomplished in terms of techniques. If the hon. member is referring to a general review of foreign policy, I must say that I do not have in mind an order of reference with respect to that. I believe our foreign policy is well established.

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

**Mr. MacGuigan:** With specific reference to aid, we have had a policy which shortly expires in the sense that there was planning for a particular period of time, and now we need to set some goals for the next five or ten years in the area of aid.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker):** I will recognize the hon. member for Edmonton South (Mr. Roche) on a supplementary question and then I will recognize the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Clark).

**Mr. Roche:** Undoubtedly there is a need for a review of aid programs but that review will only be effective if it is done in conjunction with a review of our total foreign policy, since the aid question must be inserted into many aspects of foreign policy.

I want to ask the minister specifically if he has yet had the opportunity of personally reading the two papers that were prepared by the officials of external affairs and the officials of CIDA, which are professional, objective papers, outlining the aspects of the world situation to which Canada must relate in forming a total foreign policy and an aid policy for the 1980s. Has he read those papers and is he prepared to allow the parliamentary committee to review them so that there will be an opportunity for Canadian public opinion to express itself to that committee, which can then make a report which will be effective in the formulation of the policy for which the minister has responsibility?

**Mr. MacGuigan:** Yes, I have read those papers, as the hon. member knows. Since his government did not have an opportunity to make them public—the passage of events has perhaps slightly outdated them, more in some areas than in others—I would certainly be prepared to consider releasing those papers, either as they were or with some updating changes. I have not made any decision on that but I am considering that problem. Certainly I have not made a decision that it would then be a basis for a reference to a parliamentary committee. That is not a commitment which I am prepared to give at this time.

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Leader of the Opposition):** Perhaps the most intriguing passage in this delinquent declaration by the government is the following:

It remains up to the Soviet Union to create the conditions in which the Olympics can take place.

● (1740)

The minister's statement then went on to indicate that if those conditions are created, the Liberal government is prepared to reassess the position that the minister, after four months, has announced today. Exactly what are the conditions that the Government of Canada has in mind which would cause it to reassess its decision to boycott the Olympic Games?

**Mr. MacGuigan:** Madam Speaker, there is no mystery about that. That is the same type of statement which has been made by most of the countries which have made declarations in favour of boycotting, with the United States alone excepted, because the United States has said that even if the Soviet Union withdrew its troops and allowed a free vote to take place in Afghanistan, that it still would not go to the Olympics. But most countries have made their decision to boycott conditional upon the fact that the Soviet Union continues its aggression in Afghanistan. I do not think we will ever have to decide that