

*Oral Questions*

sury Board mentioned earlier that this had caused the loss of 1,080 jobs in our region while we have created 40,000 in the Montreal area. That is what we should keep in mind.

## REQUEST THAT JOBS BE SAFEGUARDED IF CANADAIR SOLD

**Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Saint-Denis):** According to a confidential study carried out by the Federal Government, Mr. Speaker, Quebec accounts for 51 per cent of the aerospace industry in Canada, compared with 46 per cent for Ontario and 3 per cent for the rest of Canada.

I have a question for the Hon. Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion.

Could he assure clearly to the House this morning that should Canadair be sold, its employees will keep their jobs. Also, that the findings of the Burns Fry study concerning the possible sale of Canadair will be made public. And finally, will he promise that he will no longer open the books of Canadair to firms such as—

[*English*]

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please, that is many questions in one.

**Hon. Sinclair Stevens (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion):** Mr. Speaker, I believe I gave a full and complete answer to the Hon. Member's first question. As far as his second and third questions are concerned, I simply reassure him that, insofar as the ongoing negotiations are concerned in respect of Canadair, the Burns report is available to the Government of Canada. We do not feel, because of certain rather confidential commercially sensitive parts of that report, that it should be opened to the public at the present time. However, I can assure the Hon. Member that if we are able to enter into a negotiation which would lead to the sale of Canadair, the material in that report, to the extent that it is not commercially sensitive, will be made available for all to see.

## EFFECT OF DE HAVILLAND SALE ON CANADAIR CONTRACTS

**Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Saint-Denis):** Mr. Speaker, I have a short supplementary question. Will the Minister give us the assurance that, in the sale of de Havilland to Boeing, none of the 500 sub-jobs being done at the moment by Canadair will be transferred to the new Boeing of Toronto?

**Hon. Sinclair Stevens (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion):** Mr. Speaker, as Hon. Members of the House will recall, before the House rose for Christmas I think we all agreed that the de Havilland matter should be considered by a committee of the House. I believe that preparations are now under way to have the hearings commence. I would suggest to the Hon. Member, if he is interested in the type of question which he has raised, that that would be the appropriate forum for him in which to ask that question. I certainly assure him that there will be an appropriate answer.

[*Translation*]

## REQUEST FOR GOVERNMENT GUARANTEES

**Mr. Mike Cassidy (Ottawa Centre):** Mr. Speaker, my question is also directed to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion and arises from a meeting my leader and I had with workers and representatives of 5,000 workers at Canadair, who are also worried about de-industrialization in the Montreal area.

If the Government stands by its decision to privatize Canadair, does it intend to provide guarantees that a Parliamentary Committee will have full scrutiny of the conditions well before the sale, and would the Government guarantee not to sell Canadair without the specific approval of the Parliament of Canada?

[*English*]

**Hon. Sinclair Stevens (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion):** Mr. Speaker, let me again assure the Hon. Member and all Hon. Members of the House that certainly we are as concerned about the ongoing jobs in respect of Canadair as any member of the Opposition. It is the Government's chief concern that Canadair be maintained, that it prosper and that it not only continue in the aerospace field but in related fields. We believe that the steps which we are taking and the negotiations which we are holding with possible buyers are the best means to ensure the viability of Canadair for the long term, and the jobs for the workers at Canadair.

## PARLIAMENTARY SCRUTINY

**Mr. Mike Cassidy (Ottawa Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. Since it is clear that the Government mishandled the de Havilland deal by trying to do a deal behind Parliament's back, will the Minister undertake that there will be full parliamentary scrutiny of any proposed sale of Canadair, and that Parliament will be called upon to approve by a vote any sale of Canadair, so that we can ensure that those jobs are protected rather than just having to take the Government's word?

**Hon. Sinclair Stevens (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion):** Mr. Speaker, again in reply to the Hon. Member, one of the reasons that I so welcomed the committee hearing into de Havilland is the almost enjoyment I will have watching certain members of the Opposition eat their words concerning the deal which we have struck in respect of de Havilland between the Government of Canada and Boeing. In short, it is a good deal for the workers at de Havilland and it is a good deal for the people of Canada. Again I can assure him that that is the only type of deal we will contemplate in respect of Canadair.