Oral Questions

eventuality of economic or political reprisals from South Africa?

[Translation]

Hon. Monique Landry (Minister for External Relations): Mr. Speaker, I indeed represented Canada last week at the funeral of President Machel of Mozambique. During my trip, I was able to meet many representatives of front-line countries, including the President of Zambia. Naturally, they all told me of their concern about the sanctions imposed by South Africa and the retaliation which could ensue. The situation is certainly very tense.

Mr. Speaker, I naturally informed all the representatives of these countries that Canada would continue to offer them practical support, either politically or through development assistance programs.

[English]

CANADIAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

APPOINTMENT OF ANTONIO ARCANGEL TO HUMAN RIGHTS
TRIBLINAL

Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Justice. Why did his Government approve the appointment to the Human Rights Tribunal of Marcos supporter Antonio Arcangel in September of this year, when on August 15 specific allegations of subversive activities regarding an organization he headed were tabled at a meeting with representatives of the Department of External Affairs in Ottawa?

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member is raising these allegations on the floor of the House of Commons under the protections of the Chamber. I have taken notice of the allegations which were raised during my absence from Ottawa, on Monday, and those which she now raises. I am looking into the matter.

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): Will you report to the House?

[Translation]

GOVERNMENT POSITION

Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East): I have a supplementary for the Right Hon. Prime Minister. I would like to know if he is willing to respond to the telegrams he has received asking that the name of Mr. Arcangel be withdrawn because his appointment gives a very bad image to the Canadian Human Rights Commission. Following the freedom movement for the Philippines, is the Prime Minister willing to respond to the requests that the name of Mr. Arcangel be withdrawn?

[English]

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, if I may, I will answer that question although it was directed to the Deputy Prime Minister.

Ms. Copps: To the Prime Minister.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: To the Prime Minister. I apologize. The Hon. Member is afforded protection to make allegations freely in the House.

Ms. Copps: The meeting took place on August 15 at External Affairs.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: However, there is a principle involved which allows the person whose reputation is being impugned to state his side of the story.

Ms. Copps: You appointed him.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: I would like to have the opportunity to look at both sides of the matter as I know the Hon. Member would in similar circumstances.

TRADE

CANADA-UNITED STATES NEGOTIATIONS—U.S. COUNTERVAIL

Mr. Bill Kempling (Burlington): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister for International Trade. It was reported last week that Clayton Yeutter, the U.S. trade representative, speaking in Chicago stated that countervail laws are not up for discussion at the trade negotiations. The Minister has said that they are. Could the Minister tell us whether or not they are under discussion?

Hon. Pat Carney (Minister for International Trade): Mr. Speaker, I am glad to have the opportunity to correct the record. I have examined the text of Mr. Yeutter's speech. He did not make the comment which the media have attributed to him. Contingency protection measures, which include countervail and antidumping measures, are very clearly on the negotiating table. These are the new trade rules and regulations which we are hoping to achieve through the negotiations with the United States.

CODE OF CONDUCT

WORK PERFORMED FOR MINISTER'S SPOUSE

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops—Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister.