

disturbed about the long-term effects of radiation from Chernobyl and the inadequacy of regional measurements here in Canada. Since we have now learned that some foods are being impounded and high levels of radiation are of concern in terms of some of the crops grown in the Vancouver area, will the Minister be submitting a claim to the Soviet Union for all costs and damages?

Hon. Jake Epp (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I think there is one point that has to be made before the question is answered. In his preamble the Member mentioned that Canadians were concerned about the inadequacy of Canadian monitoring or testing. That is simply not the case. Our monitoring and testing have been very good by every measure, including my discussions with the European regional office of the World Health Organization from which we just had a telegram again yesterday. There has been full co-operation, both internationally, and domestically with the provinces. That must be said so that the people of Canada know they are being well protected. That is the first point.

Should a claim with respect to any compensation have to be made, I, as Minister of Health, could not answer that independently. The Cabinet would have to make a decision on that. It has not yet been discussed.

REQUEST THAT DAMAGES CLAIM BE SUBMITTED TO SOVIET UNION

Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, there is only one area that has been tested in British Columbia. That is Vancouver. There are other areas of British Columbia.

An Hon. Member: Not true.

Mr. Fulton: Ketchikan, Alaska, gives reports every five hours, not once a week.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Does the Hon. Member have a question?

Mr. Fulton: My supplementary question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs who, I believe, has the jurisdiction in this. On January 24, 1978, Cosmos 954 crashed here in Canada, causing \$14 million in damage.

Mr. Speaker: Order. Does the Hon. Member have a question immediately? Just a question.

Mr. Fulton: Will the Secretary of State for External Affairs—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An Hon. Member: That is not a supplementary.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair obviously cannot tell if a question is supplementary until it has heard the question. May I hear the question, please?

Oral Questions

Mr. Fulton: Based on the precedent of Cosmos 954, will the Minister be submitting to the Soviet Union for payment, all costs and damages affecting Canada that are attributable to the Chernobyl disaster?

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, if there are damages to Canada proven as a consequence of that terrible accident, we will certainly seriously consider the suggestion that the Hon. Member has made.

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NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

ABORIGINAL LAND CLAIMS BOUNDARY

Mr. Thomas Suluk (Nunatsiak): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Hon. Minister for Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Last Friday, the Inuit, the Dene, and the Métis reached a tentative agreement on where their land claims boundary will be. If this agreement is ratified, will the Government of Canada accept this agreement as being conclusive on the extent of jurisdiction for each claim, and if the boundary is also acceptable among northerners as the basis for the division of the Northwest Territories, will the Government of Canada be prepared to accept this boundary for the creation of two new territories?

Hon. David Crombie (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Hon. Member for raising the matter. It gives me the opportunity to congratulate those who were involved in the recent meeting on the progress they have made. The Hon. Member may know that the native leaders will be meeting with the Government of the Northwest Territories in Rankin Inlet in June. I hope there will be progress at that meeting as well. As always, the federal Government stands in a receptive mood to resolve the matter, especially as it is being developed by northerners, in the North. I also want to take the opportunity to thank the Hon. Member for his contribution.

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VISIBLE MINORITIES

INTERNMENT OF JAPANESE CANADIANS DURING WORLD WAR II—PRICE WATERHOUSE REPORT

Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State for Multiculturalism. The Price Waterhouse study of the losses suffered by Japanese Canadians is now public and serves to demonstrate the severe magnitude of the problems inflicted on this very community. Rather than taking an indifferent and irresponsible view of the findings, as he has to date, will the Minister assure the House that he will use this report as the vehicle to begin meaningful