

Crown corporation so that it is demonstrated that the situation is not worse with this company than with others and that we can go on travelling safely on the aircraft of Air Canada?

[English]

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, I certainly do not think the two incidents should be connected at all, since they involve different aircraft and, very clearly, different causes, quite apart from what those causes might be. It is important, even while we regret any particular incident and extend sympathy to those who have lost friends and relatives in a crash like this, to recognize that Air Canada's record of safety is very, very good. Indeed, I think it's very close to being among the best in the world.

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INDUSTRY

LOCATION OF FORD MOTOR COMPANY PLANT IN ONTARIO

Mr. James Gillies (Don Valley): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce and the acting minister, I will go to the second minister, the Minister of Employment and Immigration. Can he tell us why the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce reneged on the offer he made to the province of Ontario through the minister of industry and tourism of that province to share in the subsidy that was about to be offered to Ford Motor Company to locate their plant in Windsor, Ontario?

Hon. Bud Cullen (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, my colleague, the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, indicated there was no reneging nor was there any commitment made to the 75-25. If this plant were built in Ontario in a DREE area, there would be some basis for making that particular allegation. The Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce is, I believe, in Toronto today discussing this very matter.

Mr. Gillies: Can the Minister of Employment and Immigration tell us whether the government has a set policy with regard to this type of operation, because it seems clear that the degree of subsidy offered in a variety of areas is considerably different? For example, General Motors has apparently been offered an 80 per cent subsidy if it locates in or just outside Montreal. What is the policy of the government on this? Is there an established policy of providing significant aid through the provinces to these locations which is the same throughout the country, or does it vary according to the circumstances?

Mr. Cullen: Mr. Speaker, the government's policy under the Department of Regional Economic Expansion is well known. It is a consistent policy and it is applicable right across the country. Therefore, there is no conflict in that area at all.

Mr. Gillies: If I might go back, Mr. Speaker, it seems there is a conflict. It is quite clear that the offer made to General Motors is different from the offer that was made to Ford with regard to the percentage of the subsidy. All reports suggest

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this is the situation. I again ask the minister, why was the offer of support 80 per cent in the case of General Motors and only 50 per cent in the case of Ford?

Mr. Cullen: Mr. Speaker, that sounds to me like the wildest kind of speculation in which the hon. member is engaging. I do not think that question should be answered.

[Translation]

REASONS BEHIND ALLEGED POLICY TO REDUCE JOBS IN QUEBEC

Mr. Heward Grafftey (Brome-Missisquoi): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the right hon. Prime Minister a question which concerns at least 150,000 workers in the province of Quebec.

In view of the fact that over 30,000 jobs have been lost in the province of Quebec during the past few months in the traditional sectors of the clothing, textile, footwear and furniture industries, and that the unemployment there, which averages over 11 per cent, reaches some 15 per cent in a number of cities, I should like to know why, in an official document entitled "Briefing Notes for Consultative Task Forces" and dealing with tariff bargaining, the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce indicated the following objectives as government policies for these sectors, and I quote:

The objective of the policy should be to reduce gradually the number of jobs by increasing rationalization with a necessary minimum of protection during the transition period.

Given those facts, I ask the right hon. Prime Minister why the government supports such a policy?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I do not know what documents the hon. member has in his hand, but perhaps he could table them and I could discuss his question.

Mr. Grafftey: Mr. Speaker, I would like to know from the right hon. Prime Minister whether the ministers from Quebec intend, during parliamentary recess, to visit the Quebec localities where the textile, clothing, footwear and furniture industries are located to explain why it is the policy of the government to cause those industries to disappear, and to inform—

● (1432)

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am sure the hon. member will recognize the argumentative line of his questions.