

Oral Questions

believe, RATCOM, which is supposed to be operational in Cold Lake, is not actually in our hands yet. It is still in the hands of the contractor for testing and we are still using the old system which is called TRAC. This will be replaced by RATCOM, which is a much better and efficient way of locating the aircraft. However, at the moment, the only way we could trace the plane was through the TRAC system which only gives communication contact not necessarily radar coverage.

NON AVAILABILITY OF EMERGENCY LOCATION TRANSMITTERS

Hon. Allan B. McKinnon (Victoria): Is the Minister telling us that over all these years there has been no radar installation at Cold Lake able to track aircraft coming in and going out of Cold Lake? I would appreciate if he would answer that question. Perhaps, while he is on his feet, he could also tell us whether these planes had any kind of emergency locator transmitters on them or anything else which would indicate the site of the crash.

Hon. J. Gilles Lamontagne (Minister of National Defence): As far as emergency location is concerned, we know very well that these fighter planes do not have what we call ELTs, emergency locator transmitters, but they do have a special device which a pilot must put into action if, in any case, he is in an emergency. Apparently, they had not been switched on in these two cases. Not knowing exactly how the accident happened, we do not know if they were flying high or low. As the Hon. Member very well knows, if pilots fly lower than a certain height, we cannot follow them by radar. At the moment, there is an investigation going on to see how this accident happened, but unfortunately, I cannot give a more exact explanation for the accident at the present time.

PROJECT TO SAVE LAST WARTIME CORVETTE

Mr. W. Kenneth Robinson (Etobicoke-Lakeshore): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Defence. Will the Minister advise whether he will save the last Corvette, the *Sackville*, which has been taken out of service, and if he will make arrangements that it be given to the Maritime Museum in Halifax and the Naval Officers Association of Canada so that it can be restored to its wartime condition and put on permanent display?

Hon. J. Gilles Lamontagne (Minister of National Defence): Madam Speaker, I have received several representations, from both sides of the House, especially those of my colleague, the Minister of State for International Trade, who is from Halifax. I can assure the Hon. Member that my Department is currently conducting a study on how we can preserve it, and this study has my full approval. I do hope we can save the *Sackville*, which was a wartime Corvette, as it would be a very good memento for the many brave sailors who sailed on these Corvette class ships during the war.

INDUSTRY

TAX INCENTIVES REQUESTED FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Hon. George Hees (Northumberland): Madam Speaker, could I have the attention of the Minister of Finance for a moment?

Mr. Lewis: Get ready, Marc!

Mr. Hees: The Prime Minister has nothing to worry about today.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Trudeau: Or any other day.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hees: I would like to address a question to the Minister of Finance, Madam Speaker. As the share of the Canadian market held by foreign-made products has increased from 19 per cent 15 years ago to 31 per cent today, and as more and more Canadians have found foreign-made products more attractive in price, quality and design, would the Minister give serious consideration to introducing generous taxation incentives based and paid directly in proportion to increases in the research and development carried out by Canadian industry, so that we can lower costs and selling prices and improve our quality and design, so that Canadian products can start winning back the very large share of the market which they have lost in recent years, and start producing the extra jobs our people need?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance): Madam Speaker, I thank the Hon. Member for his question and his interest in this very important subject indeed. The question of increased productivity, better technology and better quality of product, is one which is uppermost in the Government's mind. As a matter of fact, I would remind the Hon. Member that this year, on the export side, Canada has increased its share of the world market, so we must not only be buying imports, but we must also be pretty good at exporting our products, and that has applied even in the manufacturing sector, I am advised.

Mr. Stevens: No, no!

Mr. Lalonde: This is the advice I have received, that we have succeeded in expanding our share of the world market in terms of exports.

Mr. Stevens: But not on manufactured goods.

Mr. Lalonde: As far as the question of research and development is concerned, the Government has attacked this issue very aggressively since 1980. In fact it is estimated that the total expenditures for R and D in Canada in 1982 will have increased from \$3.7 billion in 1981 to about \$4.4 billion in 1982. I am also advised that we have one of the most generous