

still 16 which are undergoing further consideration but I will certainly undertake a look into the incident to which the Hon. Member has referred.

Mr. Benjamin: I hope that passenger didn't eat any tuna.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some Hon. Members: Shame.

Mr. Speaker: No comment. A supplementary question.

FLIGHT ATTENDANTS' STRIKE—APPOINTMENT OF MEDIATOR

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina West): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister if he does not now agree that the situation of amateurs operating cabin crews on Air Canada has gone on long enough and the issue should be resolved with the immediate appointment, as requested by CALFAA, of a mediator, and more stringent enforcement of the regulations by the Minister's Department?

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I can advise the Hon. Member and the House that my colleague, the Minister of Labour, has indeed appointed a mediator this afternoon. He has announced the appointment of Roland Doucet as mediator pursuant to Section 195 of the Canada Labour Code.

● (1440)

I can assure my hon. friend that the surveillance and monitoring of safety standards is ongoing. As I indicated to him earlier, it has been beefed up substantially.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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BANKS AND BANKING

CANADIAN COMMERCIAL BANK COLLAPSE—SEIZURE OF ASSETS IN CALIFORNIA

Miss Aideen Nicholson (Trinity): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of State for Finance.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Gauthier: Don't be so happy.

Miss Nicholson: The Government has lead us to understand that the Bank of Canada has first claim on all the assets of the Canadian Commercial Bank, but U.S. regulators have seized \$255 worth of CCB assets in California and are quoted as taking the position that California residents will have first claim. Can the Minister tell us what steps are being taken to protect Canadian interests?

Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of State (Finance)): Mr. Speaker, let me say that the first protection for Canadian

Oral Questions

interests is that we do not spread around misinformation picked up at lunch at the Toronto Club.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Frith: What about the Albany Club?

Mrs. McDougall: What has happened in California is a routine matter of regulation in that the Superintendent of Banks of the State of California took steps to take possession of property. Officials of the Bank of Canada are in touch with the state regulators. Our position continues and the Bank's position continues to be that Canadian interests are covered.

Mr. Gauthier: By whom?

UNITED STATES FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD REPORT

Miss Aideen Nicholson (Trinity): Mr. Speaker, the Minister has said that she is trying to get the U.S. regulators to make available to this House their report of February 20 on the Canadian Commercial Bank.

An official of the Federal Reserve Board in Washington has been quoted as saying that she has not yet had a request. Could the Minister explain just what is happening?

Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of State (Finance)): Mr. Speaker, with reference to the request to the U.S. regulator, the article that appeared in the press today was surprisingly based on invalid information. Concerning that inquiry, I will read the telex response, and I am prepared to table it, Mr. Speaker. It reads:

The report of examination is the central tool of the supervisory process in the United States. It contains the findings of the examination, including information about specific assets and borrowers and criticisms of various aspects of an institution's operations. Confidentiality of the document is intended to respect the private business affairs of individual customers—

Accordingly, it is the policy of the Federal Reserve not to accede to requests from outside parties—

That was confirmed by telephone this morning. We are continuing to pursue other channels.

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SPACE WEAPONRY

UNITED STATES STRATEGIC DEFENCE INITIATIVE—GOVERNMENT POLICY

Ms. Pauline Jewett (New Westminster-Coquitlam): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. On September 7, the Prime Minister made what appeared to be a very clear statement about Canada and star wars. The Prime Minister stated that it would not be in Canada's interests for the Government of Canada to participate in SDI research.

Since then the Deputy Prime Minister has totally muddied the waters. Will the Prime Minister take this opportunity to restate that policy and tell us in no uncertain terms that if government agencies and Departments, such as the National Research Council, the RCMP, and research centres in