

Inquiries of the Ministry

space research and satellite telecommunication technology? If so, can he indicate in what areas the proposals lie?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the answer to that question is yes, I did make some proposals to the foreign minister of France. It would take me quite a long time to place them before the house. When the estimates of my department are being considered would perhaps be an appropriate time for me to give a full answer to that question.

INDIAN AFFAIRS**INQUIRY AS TO ESTABLISHMENT OF CLAIMS COMMISSION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and relates to the current consultations and meetings taking place with native Indians across the country and the concern they feel about not having available the proposed bill establishing an Indian claims commission, details of which the government outlined in the speech from the throne. Will the minister take steps immediately to make public government policy in this regard, or the government bill to establish the Indian claims commission, so that the matter may be discussed at the meetings which are taking place now?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development has been giving the matter of the Indian claims commission consideration and he has stated that there will be consultation when a basic policy for presentation is available about which there can be consultation.

Mr. Howard (Skeena): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Did I understand the minister, who I believe is the acting minister, to say that there will be another series of consultations following the introduction of the Indian claims commission bill? If so, could he spell out in detail what is to take place?

Mr. Speaker: I hope the acting minister does not spell that out in detail. We have just two minutes left.

[Mr. Macquarrie.]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**GABON—INQUIRY AS TO DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Has Canada initiated steps to renew diplomatic relations with Gabon?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Not yet, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Fairweather: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In March the former prime minister of Canada said that he would ask if exchanges of correspondence on this subject could be tabled. Could they now be tabled?

Mr. Sharp: I was not concerned with these affairs so much in those days, Mr. Speaker, so that I shall look up the record and see what might be done. I might say, to clarify my previous answer, that of course there are relations between Gabon and Canada. All that has happened is that we have not exchanged diplomats.

[*Translation*]

VIET NAM—REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF POLICY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Henri Latulippe (Compton): Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a question to the hon. Minister for External Affairs.

Could he tell the house whether the government intends to revise its Viet Nam policy and, if so, could he be more explicit?

[*English*]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member were to read the statement I made yesterday at the United Nations he might have a clear exposition of our position.

Mr. Lewis: That is self serving evidence.

AGRICULTURE**TURKEYS—REQUEST FOR PROTECTION AGAINST U.S. IMPORTS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. E. McKinley (Huron): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture. On September 16 the minister said that the matter of the importation of United States turkeys at prices below the cost of Canadian production was to be given consideration. Has the matter been considered?