

Members of Parliament

the Hon. Member that he be very, very careful in making allegations on the floor of the House of Commons, under its protection, with respect to a matter that is before the courts.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Speaker, curiously, no charges have been laid against Mr. Boivin arising out of this incident.

POLICY OF CANADIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby): Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that CSIS can plant informers in any democratic organization in Canada without even obtaining a judicial warrant, and given the history of abuses by the security service in the past in failing to distinguish between subversion and dissent, I wish to ask the Prime Minister this. Will he not instruct the Security Intelligence Review Committee to review urgently CSIS policy with respect to planting informers? Meanwhile, will he tell CSIS to stop spying on the labour movement in Canada?

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, as you know, it is not our practice, my practice or the practice of the Solicitor General to comment with respect to any particular set of circumstances under investigation which is before the courts.

I would only say to the Hon. Member that in general terms CSIS operates under legislative mandate approved by Parliament. There is a very exhaustive set of scrutiny processes involved in that legislation which involves the observation of its activities to ensure that it does in fact operate within the law. In this particular case I think that the Hon. Member would agree that there is a very, very good set of safeguards available to ensure that Canadian interests are protected.

Mr. Speaker: I would advise Hon. Members that there will be one question only from the Hon. Member for Montreal—Sainte-Marie and also one from question from the Hon. Member for Drummond. The Hon. Member for Montreal—Sainte-Marie.

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[Translation]

ENERGY

EXPORTATION OF ELECTRICITY BY QUEBEC—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal—Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Today we heard that unfortunately the National Energy Board turned down an application by Hydro-Québec to export electric power to New England. Because of the time, I have only one question, Mr. Speaker, so I would like to ask the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources whether he intends to ask the National Energy Board to review its decision, to support the application by Hydro-Québec and

accelerate the process. I would like to know what explanation the Minister has for the decision to turn down the application, supposedly because there was no evidence the power was surplus to the needs of the other provinces, who, in fact, are themselves exporting power to the United States.

Hon. Marcel Masse (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, it is up to Hydro-Québec to lodge a complaint.

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TAX REFORM

EFFECTS

Mr. Jean-Guy Guilbault (Drummond): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Finance and has to do with the White Paper on tax reform which he will make public this evening. Can the Minister assure the House and the Canadian people that tax revenues after this reform will not exceed current taxes, that it is not a trick which will yield more revenues for the public treasury to reduce the deficit, something which would put a heavier tax burden on small wage earners?

[English]

Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I can comment on that in a general way and repeat for the benefit of the Hon. Member one of the key objectives that we established for ourselves last October in tax reform, that is to say, that it would not be a revenue grab. We would take the same amount of revenue as a percentage of the total size of our economy after tax reform as before.

I have also indicated that I think that it is important that corporations as a whole pay a greater share of our revenues than would individuals. These are two objectives that I think the Hon. Member will see fulfilled later on this evening.

Mr. Speaker: I understand that there may be some representations from the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition with respect to two of our colleagues who have given some considerable service to this place. The Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF ELECTION OF MR. GRAY (WINDSOR WEST) AND MR. ORLIKOW

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, we have occasion again this week as Your Honour has so generously suggested to recognize two Members of the