

extend our jurisdiction to cover our continental shelf and slope and, if so, will the government support the position Iceland is taking on this matter in view of the similarity of the situations?

**Mr. Sharp:** Mr. Speaker, as my colleague, the Minister of the Environment, has said, it is not our intention to ask only for 50 miles.

**Mr. McGrath:** A supplementary question—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Again I suggest to hon. members that an attempt should be made to limit the number of supplementary questions, but if it is the wish of hon. members I will recognize first the hon. member for St. John's East.

**Mr. McGrath:** Mr. Speaker, the minister's reply indicates that he has misunderstood or deliberately misconstrued my question. I asked whether Canada will now take as its official position that it has jurisdiction over its continental shelf and slope for purposes of management and conservation of our marine resources, which in many cases could take us beyond 200 miles, as the minister knows?

**Mr. Sharp:** Yes, I agree entirely, Mr. Speaker, and I fully expect that in the objectives or the general position that Canada will take in preparation for the Law of the Sea Conference some such objective will be stated.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Dartmouth-Halifax East, the hon. member for Assiniboia and then the hon. member for Portneuf.

**Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs whether the policy announcement which he indicated will be forthcoming in the fall will take the form of a white paper presentation?

**Mr. Sharp:** Mr. Speaker, the procedure I would favour and that I think the government will follow is, first of all, to have consultations with the provinces which have expressed an interest in the position that will be taken by Canada, following which the government will issue a statement of its objectives for the Law of the Sea Conference. It would be my intention to table it here and refer it to the appropriate committee of the House.

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#### INDUSTRY

DEFENCE INDUSTRY PRODUCTIVITY PROGRAM—  
ALLEGED MISUSE OF FUNDS BY DEPARTMENT—  
CORPORATIONS INVOLVED

**Mr. Bill Knight (Assiniboia):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question or two for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In view of the fact the Auditor General in his report has charged the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce with misuse of public funds—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Hon. members speaking across the floor near the Chair make it very difficult for

#### Oral Questions

the Chair to hear hon. members who have the floor. I think all hon. members should be given an opportunity to ask their questions without interruption.

**Mr. Knight:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated, my question is for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In view of the fact the Auditor General, an officer of parliament, has charged the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce with misuse of public funds under the defence industry productivity program, will the minister inform the House whether the corporations involved in the charges in paragraphs 103, 105 and 106 are Collins Radio Company of Canada, General Precision Industries Limited and Computing Devices of Canada? Will the minister also inform the House whether the government has moved in the direction of attempting to collect the \$1.4 million owed by these corporations?

**Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, yesterday the hon. member asked whether I could confirm that the particular firm referred to in paragraph 102 of the Auditor General's report was the Canadian Marconi Company. The answer is yes. I can confirm that information. But the department does not accept that it is in default with regard to collecting the outstanding obligation mentioned in the report. As to the names in the other paragraphs, I might suggest to the hon. member that the Public Accounts Committee has been set up to consider the report of the Auditor General and that might be the place to go into a detailed examination of his report.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Chair will recognize the hon. member for one final supplementary question, after which I will recognize the hon. member for Portneuf.

**Mr. Knight:** In view of the fact the Public Accounts Committee and parliament have received several reports from the Auditor General on these matters, can the minister inform the House whether his department is considering a review of its grants structure and programs? In view of the fact that one of the corporations I mentioned today is now controlled by a United States corporation by the name of Control Data, and that this corporation through the minister's programs has received over \$20 million in grants—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

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[Translation]

#### WEATHER MODIFICATION

CLOUD SEEDING—INQUIRY RESPECTING EXCHANGE OF  
INFORMATION BETWEEN CANADIAN AND AMERICAN  
DEFENCE DEPARTMENTS

**Mr. Roland Godin (Portneuf):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of National Defence.

Can he tell the House whether information has been exchanged between the Canadian and American Defence Departments on altering the weather? If so, what did those exchanges consist of? Is it solely a matter of exchanging information or have joint experiments been