

## INDUSTRY

## EXTENSION OF SUBSIDIES TO SHIPBUILDING

**Hon. Jack Marshall:** Honourable senators, I have a question for the Minister of State for Economic Development having to do with the shipbuilding industry.

I am sure the minister will recall that last spring I made a plea on behalf of the shipbuilding industry because of the expiry of the 20 per cent subsidy. I wonder if the minister could indicate if there has been any change in the position of the government, and if that subsidy will be continued.

**Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of State for Economic Development):** No, honourable senators. There was an announcement, either at that time or since—I am not sure of the exact date—that the shipbuilding subsidy, in most cases, will be reduced to a lower level, after the time frame with reference to the ships that are under consideration now has run out. No change has been announced. If one is announced, this will be done by the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

**Senator Marshall:** Honourable senators, by way of a supplementary, at the annual meeting held last week in Halifax they expressed concern again, and evidently pleaded with the government for some alternative policy because of the fact that there is a potential \$40 billion of shipbuilding business in the long term. I wonder if the minister could bring this matter to the attention of his colleagues, and see if anything can be done to promote economic development in that area.

**Senator Olson:** Well, honourable senators, I do not want to base a reply on results coming out of a conference held last week; but I want to agree with my honourable friend that there is an enormous prospect for a great number of ships being built, and therefore great activity within the shipbuilding yards in Canada, in connection with a number of projects, including some specialized ones, such as drilling platforms, semi-submersibles, and LNG tankers.

## FOREIGN AFFAIRS

## ISRAELI ATTACK ON NUCLEAR REACTOR IN IRAQ—CANADIAN ATTITUDE IN SECURITY COUNCIL

**Hon. Heath Macquarrie:** Honourable senators, I should like to ask a question of the Leader of the Government in the Senate concerning the Middle East, and in particular the recent raid on the establishment in Baghdad. Considering that the Security Council is now seized of the whole situation, realizing that any implementation of whatever the Security Council recommends will fall upon the generality of the membership, which of course includes Canada, and realizing that very likely Canada has been approached as to its view, can the minister indicate whether or not Canada supports the French motion, the Islamic motion, or the Third World motion? Further, has such support been communicated to the Security Council participants in this very serious matter?

**Hon. Raymond J. Perrault (Leader of the Government):** The question will be taken as notice, honourable senators.

[Senator Olson.]

## MIDDLE EAST—GOVERNMENT ACTION ON STANFIELD REPORT

**Hon. Heath Macquarrie:** Honourable senators, I should like also to ask, in the same area but perhaps with greater generality, and I think enduring importance, in view of the fact that it is now a good many months since Ambassador Robert Stanfield handed in his in-depth and very wise, perceptive report on the Middle East situation—

**Hon. Royce Frith (Deputy Leader of the Government):** It is a magnificent report.

**Senator Macquarrie:** I agree. Senator Frith says it is a magnificent report. As someone said to me the other day, "There is a great deal of wisdom in there," and I said, "Exactly. There is a great deal of wisdom in the author."

Recalling that the Clark Government very wisely, in my opinion, accepted quickly and fully the interim report by Ambassador Robert Stanfield, can the minister indicate if the government today is prepared to look upon this most excellent and thorough report as a beginning of a Canadian approach to the Middle East, something upon which, I am sure, the Canadian people could rally in support? If it has not finished its consideration, perhaps the honourable leader could tell us exactly where the Stanfield report stands and the thinking of the government at the present time.

**Hon. Raymond J. Perrault (Leader of the Government):** Honourable senators, the Middle East situation, and Canada's approach to events there, will be the subject of an inquiry which will be directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. I hope that a report can be brought to the chamber next week.

## THE SENATE

## RE-ALLOCATION OF SEATS IN CHAMBER

**Hon. Jean-Paul Deschatelets:** Honourable senators, since Senator Petten is back in his seat, can we hear from him with regard to the reallocation of seats to certain senators who have communicated with him and have sent him a formal request?

**Hon. William J. Petten:** Honourable senators, I apologize for my absence from the chamber when Senator Deschatelets asked his question. I left the chamber to take a phone call.

I have now received nine requests from honourable senators to have their places moved so that they may sit as a group.

**Senator Hartland de M. Molson:** No, no.

**Senator Petten:** Is that not correct?

**Senator Molson:** No.

**Senator Petten:** "Sit together," then—whatever phraseology you want—"so that they may sit together as a group". As I said the other day, I now have to speak to other senators who are occupying space we shall need so that you can sit together, Senator Molson. I have now begun and am working towards that end. How long it will take, I am not sure, but I am actively pursuing it.