

## AIRPORTS

## SECURITY OF TRAVELLERS

**Mr. John Nunziata (York South—Weston):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Deputy Prime Minister and is with regard to security at Canadian airports. On June 25, 1985, two days after the Air-India tragedy, the Deputy Prime Minister, then the Minister of Transport, said the following as reported at page 6146 of *Hansard*:

Over the last 60 hours, since these tragedies occurred, the Government has moved quickly to ensure the security of Canadian air travellers—

We learned today that notwithstanding the assurances given by the Minister of Transport at the time, the Canadian failure rate now stands at 25 per cent which is worse than the failure rate at major American airports. We find now that safety and security at Canadian airports over the last two years have remained abysmally substandard.

Would the Deputy Prime Minister explain to Canadians why he misled this House and Canadians two days after the Air-India tragedy?

**Some Hon. Members:** Order, order!

**Mr. Clark (Yellowhead):** Where's John Turner?

**Miss MacDonald:** As usual he's not in the House.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am sure the Hon. Member for York South—Weston knows that it is, of course, against the rules to suggest that anyone deliberately misled this place. While the Hon. Member did not use the word "deliberately", his language was pretty strong. I am sure he would want to correct himself and put the question.

**Mr. Nunziata:** My question is directed to the Deputy Prime Minister. Why did he tell Canadians that the Government had moved quickly to ensure the security of Canadian air travellers when it has become obvious today that the Government did very little, if anything at all, with regard to security at Canadian airports?

**Ms. Copps:** Well, answer. The arrogance!

**Mr. Speaker:** Perhaps Hon. Members could assist the Chair. There is, of course, no obligation for a Minister to answer a question. The Hon. Member may want to ask another question.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Nunziata:** Mr. Speaker, this is absolutely unbelievable.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Some Hon. Members:** Sit down.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Some Hon. Members:** Out!

## Oral Questions

**Mr. Clark (Yellowhead):** That was directed at you, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** Contempt!

**Mr. Speaker:** Under the circumstances I know the Hon. Member for York South—Weston would co-operate with the Speaker. I am going to recognize another Member. The Hon. Member for St. John's East.

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## CAPE BRETON DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

## REQUEST FOR REPLACEMENT OF PRESIDENT

**Mr. Jack Harris (St. John's East):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion. Premier Buchanan of Nova Scotia has joined the loud chorus of voices in the mining community of Cape Breton in expressing dissatisfaction with the policies and attitudes of the current management of the Cape Breton Development Corporation and, in particular, with the President and Chief Executive Officer, Derrick Rance. Will the Minister now take steps to clean up the management of this corporation starting with the replacement of Mr. Rance?

**Hon. Robert de Cotret (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion and Minister of State for Science and Technology):** Mr. Speaker, I am well aware of the situation. I have had meetings with the Chairman of the corporation. I have also taken steps, as recently as yesterday, to direct the corporation to stop the stockpiling of coal on international wharves which raises environmental concerns in the province and very strong concerns on the part of the provincial Government.

That has already been done. I intend to sit down with the senior management of the corporation in the very near future to air the whole situation.

## MINISTER'S POSITION

**Mr. Jack Harris (St. John's East):** Mr. Speaker, Mr. Rance, the current President, assured the people of Cape Breton in November, 1985, that efficiency would be obtained in the operations without the reduction of manpower.

Why is the Minister keeping Mr. Rance in office and allowing him to continue his plans to lay off close to 500 workers? Would the Minister not agree that Mr. Rance has lost faith with the workers and people of Cape Breton and really should be removed?

• (1500)

**Hon. Robert de Cotret (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion and Minister of State for Science and Technology):** Mr. Speaker, I can only respond by repeating