

Crown assets in the city of Toronto. Can he explain to the House the logic of the government having taken an *a priori* decision to put the de Havilland Aircraft Company up for sale before the cabinet has had an opportunity to consider and study the strategy paper on the future of the aerospace industry, especially considering we were told last week by the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce that the report could have an effect not only on the timing of the sale of de Havilland but also on whether de Havilland would be sold at all?

**Hon. Sinclair Stevens (President of Treasury Board):** The hon. member is perfectly correct in saying we intend to take into consideration the aerospace study to which he referred. That is the whole purpose of our approach. The privatization unit is simply looking at the alternatives, evaluations of such companies as de Havilland who may be the buyers, and is working in conjunction with the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Also, with regard to the study to which the hon. member has referred, a co-ordinated picture will then be put before cabinet with respect to any possible sale of de Havilland.

● (1425)

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, I would have thought that the minister's experience would have told him that this kind of uncertainty does nothing for the prosperity of that industry, for its future and for the security of the workers in that industry.

My supplementary question concerns the DIPP funding for the Dash-8 plane. I wonder if the President of the Treasury Board can give us some indication as to when—or, indeed, whether—if a decision is going to be made, when the decision will be made to provide the necessary \$2 million funding that will enable the Dash-8 plane to be developed successfully in Canada.

**Mr. Stevens:** Mr. Speaker, as I answered the hon. member earlier with respect to this matter, the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce is working on a submission to bring to the Treasury Board with respect to the \$2 million funding to which the hon. member has referred. The Treasury Board can react only once the submission has been made, and certainly there will be no delay, as far as the Treasury Board is concerned, in arriving at our decision.

However, I remind the hon. member once again that the only confusion about the disposal of de Havilland and the future of the aerospace industry in Canada is with the hon. member himself and certain of his colleagues. In short, the greatest thing we can do to strengthen the aerospace industry in this country is to get it back into private sector hands.

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

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

### Oral Questions

#### PUBLIC WORKS

##### FUNDING OF HARBOURFRONT

**Mr. Bob Rae (Broadview-Greenwood):** Mr. Speaker, I find it funny that the minister would say, in answer to my first question, that they had not taken the final decision until they got the strategy picked.

My final supplementary is to the Minister of Public Works and it concerns another Crown asset in Toronto—Harbourfront. I wonder if the Minister of Public Works can tell us what the attitude of his government is toward the request by Harbourfront for \$18.5 million over seven years for the servicing of public lands, and I wonder if he can tell us when he will be making and announcing a decision with respect to that money.

**Hon. Erik Nielsen (Minister of Public Works):** Mr. Speaker, that matter is under review now. I saw some of the officers of Harbourfront yesterday morning. As soon as the decision has been made, the House will be informed.

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[Translation]

#### ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

##### INTRODUCTION OF BILL ON OPENING OF MAIL

**Mr. Gilles Marceau (Jonquière):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Solicitor General, who is responsible for the legislation on RCMP mail openings.

Can the minister tell us whether this legislation is still one of his priorities, and when does he intend to introduce it?

[English]

**Hon. Allan Lawrence (Solicitor General and Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, a measure with respect to enlarging some of the powers of the law enforcement agencies of this country has not yet been considered by my cabinet colleagues.

[Translation]

##### PROVISIONS OF LEGISLATION

**Mr. Gilles Marceau (Jonquière):** Mr. Speaker, the minister did state last July that this was priority legislation, which seems to be a discrepancy with his statement today.

In any event, does the bill he intends to introduce provide for judicial appeal, in cases of authorization and what he himself called modernization of RCMP discipline as well as an extension of civil liberties?

[English]

**Hon. Allan Lawrence (Solicitor General and Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, any such bill which will come before the House will be a government bill. Therefore, it will be considered and approved by the govern-