

Oral Questions

coming from that side of the House, since we are proceeding under an agreement signed by a Liberal Government.

REQUEST THAT GOVERNMENT REFUSE PERMISSION FOR
FURTHER TESTS

Hon. Douglas C. Frith (Sudbury): Mr. Speaker, clearly, when that agreement was signed by the previous Liberal Government there was a linkage between an INF agreement and Cruise missile testing in Canada. I ask the Minister again, given the fact that the U.S. Foreign Secretary said yesterday in Brussels that summit or no summit an INF agreement will be signed, why does the Government not therefore do the proper thing and refuse to allow the United States to test the Cruise missile further in Canada?

Hon. Pat Carney (Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, we applaud the projected signing of an INF agreement. We agree that we do not need a summit to do that.

I wish to make the point that we have never linked the two efforts. For the Hon. Member to say that the former Government took an opposing view is not substantiated by the facts.

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TRADE

UNITED STATES SUBSIDIZED GRAIN EXPORTS

Mr. Vic Althouse (Humboldt—Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister in charge of grains. In the dying days of our trade negotiations with the Americans their trade enhancement program for grains was switched from being a temporary program to end next summer to being instead one that is an integral part of their Commodity Export Program which will have an additional four years and, apparently, no limit on financing.

Can the Minister tell us what the result was of the discussions between the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the American Secretary of State over the weekend with regard to that matter which was raised in the House several times last week? Have the Americans now agreed to abide by both the spirit and the intent of the clause on page 14 which was much discussed in the House last week?

Hon. Pat Carney (Minister for International Trade): Mr. Speaker, I can answer the first part of that question. The Hon. Member may wish to ask a second question of my colleague.

We have a statement from the Secretary of State for External Affairs which states, and I will quote it for the House: "I have discussed with Mr. Shultz. I have done three things: One, discussed it with him; two, handed him a letter on the matter; three, just for his absolute identification given him the transcript of answer covering the Question Period of, I

believe, it was Wednesday in the House of Commons". He went on to say—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Miss Carney: "The discussion is not over but he certainly knows our concern about the use of that program".

NEGOTIATIONS TO END GRAIN SUBSIDIES

Mr. Vic Althouse (Humboldt—Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is to either Minister. If the Americans persist in treating this particular program as a permanent program, can either Minister tell us how we are going to negotiate the Americans out of it? Will this now be part of a series of programs of subsidies which the Americans have which, before this program was included, included some \$50 a tonne more subsidy of grain than what we have? Will we now be negotiating these out on a prorated basis? Or will we be snookered into negotiating dollar for dollar so that when the negotiations are all over they will still have \$50 more subsidy than we have?

Hon. Pat Carney (Minister for International Trade): Mr. Speaker, last week in the House I tabled the Canadian approach to the agriculture trade negotiations that are taking place in Geneva. We have followed the first player to the field, just as the Americans have done. We have made our proposal in Geneva. It will be followed shortly by members of the Cairns Group and our trading partners such as Australia. It is our firm intention to get rid of all of the elements of the subsidy wars that are taking place and which are victimizing Canadians and Canadian farmers. I am sure that the Hon. Member will receive much more information on this subject as the next few weeks progress.

Mr. Althouse: Can we have a copy of that proposal?

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ENERGY

USE OF GRAIN-DERIVED ETHANOL AS GASOLINE ADDITIVE

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Last May I asked the Minister of Energy about the use of grain-derived ethanol as an octane-enhancing additive for gasoline. The Minister advised that consultations were being carried out and he expected that a decision could be made about the end of May.

Will the Hon. Minister advise what progress is being made toward establishing this new vital industry in western Canada?

Hon. Marcel Masse (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, the Government is very aware of the importance of ethanol, particularly in western Canada. My