

EAST PAKISTAN—GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE TO ACHIEVE
POLITICAL SOLUTION

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Has the government as an individual country taken any initiative at the United Nations, either with the Secretary General or through the Security Council, pressing for a political solution to this agonizing situation?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, all of us are pressing for a political solution. It is the only possible way of dealing with the present situation. Unless there is a political settlement in Pakistan the refugees are going to remain in India and continue to be a thorn in the side of peace, if I may put it in that way. Therefore we are all working with everything at our command and using every possible means of impressing on the Pakistan government the need for a settlement, one that is democratic and made under civilian control.

PAKISTAN—GOVERNMENT POSITION RESPECTING
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. The minister has promised to make a full statement on this matter soon. I would like to ask him whether he would include in his statement the position of the government regarding present and future development assistance to Pakistan and its distribution as between East and West Pakistan.

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Yes, Mr. Speaker, we are studying this question now. There is a meeting of the aid consortium on Pakistan at the beginning of next week. I hope that by about next Wednesday I will be able to make a statement on matters including the one raised by the hon. member.

Perhaps I might also add that today the Minister of National Defence has offered two Hercules planes for the immediate transport of supplies including some of the ambulances which have been donated by the Ontario government. These Hercules planes will be leaving tomorrow morning directly for Pakistan.

EAST PAKISTAN—TYPE OF POLITICAL SOLUTION SOUGHT

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants): Mr. Speaker, would it be fair to ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs precisely what type of political solution is being sought to this problem?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, if you will permit a short answer, the preferred settlement, of course, would be one in which those individuals who have been elected pursuant to the recent election in Pakistan should be given the responsibility of governing Pakistan, particularly East Pakistan.

Inquiries of the Ministry

[Translation]

FINANCE

GOVERNMENT POSITION RESPECTING NEGATIVE INCOME
TAX FORMULA

Mr. Henry Latulippe (Compton): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Finance.

Could he tell the House whether he approves the negative tax formula suggested by many authorities as a method to assure a better distribution of the purchasing power? Does the minister believe that it would be a desirable means to stimulate the economy?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is asking the minister to give an opinion and I do not think that the question can be phrased in such a way. It could perhaps be put on the order paper.

Mr. Latulippe: Ten o'clock, Mr. Speaker.

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[English]

AIR CANADA

ISSUANCE BY TRAVEL AGENCIES OF BROCHURES ADVERTISING
SERVICE WITHOUT APPROVAL—FARE REDUC-
TION FOR PERSONS UNDER 25

Mr. Ambrose Hubert Peddle (Grand Falls-White Bay-Labrador): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. In view of the fact that Air Canada has publicly stated it accepts no responsibility for a travel brochure now circulating in Europe which invites Europeans to visit the best of Canada, namely from Quebec in the east to Vancouver in the west, would the minister say if it is the policy of our national airline, Air Canada, to permit travel wholesalers to produce advertising brochures involving its service and bearing the company's official insignia without the contents of such brochures having first been approved by Air Canada?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I would have to make an inquiry concerning what the legal position is in terms of private advertisers selling air services but I will be glad to get an answer to that. In so far as what is the best part of Canada is concerned, I am sure my hon. friend and I would agree that the farther east one goes the better it becomes.

Mr. Peddle: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister of Transport whether the government has instructed or requested Air Canada to reduce transatlantic air fares for people in the under age 25 group?

Mr. Jamieson: No, Mr. Speaker, no such instructions have been issued. There is what I suppose one might describe as a price war in effect in respect of transatlantic flights and I understand from Air Canada that they are examining the matter. As yet they have not made any formal approach to the government with regard to steps which might be required by the government to change the existing fare structure.