

Inquiries of the Ministry

IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSITIONAL PAYMENT TO PRAIRIE FARMERS

Mr. John Burton (Regina East): I have a supplementary question to the minister in charge of the Canadian Wheat Board. Having regard to the willingness of members of the House to give immediate passage to the transitional payment provision in Bill C-244, is the minister considering immediate steps, before adjournment today, to split the bill in order that the transitional payment can be made to farmers immediately?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I would be delighted to have Bill C-244 go forward so that the payments could be made, if the obstruction of the NDP in particular is now ended, but as I have said before—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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YOUTH

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PROGRAM—INVESTIGATION OF CHARGES

Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State but in his absence perhaps the parliamentary secretary would respond. In view of the serious problems concerning the Opportunities for Youth program in northern Ontario, which were raised last week in the question period, can the parliamentary secretary say whether any investigation into these charges has been carried out and what the results of the investigation are?

Mr. James Hugh Faulkner (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member is referring specifically to a statement made by the hon. member for Cochrane in which he made a number of charges, those charges that relate specifically to projects have been investigated. I am prepared to meet with him at any time and go over his specific objections with him. As to the general, vague and irresponsible charges about people in the department which were made in his statement, I suggest he has two honourable courses. One is to withdraw his charges and apologize; the other is to specify the individuals he has in mind.

Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Lancaster): Mr. Speaker, in view of the continued absence from the House of the Secretary of State, will the Prime Minister confirm that he has been banished and appointed to the Northern Canada Power Development Corporation?

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

ALLEGED SHIPMENT OF CANADIAN ARMS TO PAKISTAN

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Secretary of State

[Mr. Speaker.]

for External Affairs concerning the arms shipments which were nearly put aboard the vessel *Padma* which arrived in Montreal yesterday. Can he advise whether Maritime Aircraft Overhaul and Repair Limited was granted an export permit? If so, was the company also given the indication that such permit had been cancelled?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the procedure in granting export permits is that sometimes permits are given in advance at the time an application is made for shipment at a later date, but always subject to suspension or cancellation of the permits if in the meantime government policy has had to be changed, as it had to be with respect to the particular case involving Pakistan. In this instance the export permit has been suspended.

Mr. Macquarrie: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the minister whether all companies that have received such permits have now been informed of Canada's attitude on the arms embargo. I should also like to ask the further question whether or not there might be similar categories of arms that the government might not know about, not having good sources of information?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, I had a review made in anticipation of this situation within the last few days, and I am advised that all companies who had export permits outstanding and which involved shipment of militarily sensitive items to Pakistan have been advised that their export permits have been suspended.

Mr. Macquarrie: A further supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The Chair will recognize a further supplementary from the hon. member for Hillsborough, but I invite hon. members to co-operate with the Chair and to try to limit their supplementaries since we shall be running short of time and there are a number of members seeking an opportunity to ask questions.

Mr. Macquarrie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I should like to ask the minister whether the company in Moncton I referred to was advised directly of the government's attitude before the goods arrived on the pier at Montreal.

Mr. Sharp: No, I do not think so. I had a review made of all the outstanding export permits within the last few days and it is my understanding that they were advised only after the shipment had been sent to Montreal for loading aboard the *Padma*. I should add that as far as applications for export licences are concerned I have issued none for some weeks now, but there were, as the hon. member has remarked, some outstanding that had to be suspended.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS

INQUIRY AS TO PAY INCREASE FOR MEMBERS' SECRETARIES

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I am not sure whether my question should be