

Oral Questions

An Hon. Member: Answer in principle.

Mr. Trudeau: Yes. I am not the Pope.

Mr. Nielsen: Really?

Mr. Trudeau: I cannot say, with absolute finality, what is right or wrong.

Mr. Nowlan: Even he is having some trouble.

Mr. Deans: That is the guideline answer, I suppose.

CANADAIR—REPORTED OFFER OF BRIBE TO ALASKAN SENATOR

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): I wonder if the Prime Minister recalls my asking him to investigate the circumstances surrounding Canadair's involvement with the State Senator from Alaska, Senator Hohman, who was convicted of agreeing to accept a bribe. Why did the RCMP not investigate Canadair's involvement in that matter?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker, my recollection is that Canadair issued a statement that the person involved was no longer an employee of Canadair, that he was acting as an agent, and that he did certain things as an agent. That is my recollection of Canadair's declaration, Madam Speaker.

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INDUSTRY

DYNATEK PROJECT AT SIDNEY AIRPORT, B.C.

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Regional, Economic Expansion. Could he give me an update on the negotiations with Dynatek at Sidney International Airport, elaborating on the \$16 million part interest-free loan and part grant which was in the process at one particular stage? Where does the matter stand at the present time?

Hon. Ed Lumley (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce and Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Madam Speaker, as the Hon. Member knows, at the request of the Province and the company, the Government of Canada made a substantial offer to Dynatek. Obviously we think it is in the best long-term interests, of the microelectronics industry, and, in particular, to help diversify the economic base of western Canada. There were some conditions, attached to the offer with respect to equity infusions, from the private sector. To my knowledge, these conditions have not yet been met.

MANAGEMENT COMPETENCY

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): I assume, and this is in the form of a question, that the Minister satisfied himself before making this "substantial offer", as he said, as to the competence of the managerial staff to do what they said they would set out to do, namely, set in place a robotized system for preparing the chips.

Hon. Ed Lumley (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce and Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Madam Speaker, it has been several months since I have reviewed the dossier, but if I recall correctly, approximately 700 people were to be hired. Included were some very competent managers who had expertise in the field.

However, I would like to remind the Hon. Member that it was the Province of British Columbia which stated that it would not decide on the application until Ottawa did. If I recall correctly, the Minister of Science and Technology for the Province of British Columbia said, "We want to see what Ottawa is prepared to do first". We did act, I think, in a very responsible way. I believe that the Province of British Columbia has since followed up on our initial offer.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

UNITED STATES PROTEST OVER FLAG BURNING INCIDENT—
CANADIAN RESPONSE

Hon. Erik Nielsen (Leader of the Opposition): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister, in the absence of the Secretary of State for External Affairs. The Prime Minister will recall that a very strong note of protest was received by the Canadian Government from the Government of the United States relating to anti-American demonstrations which occurred in the city of Winnipeg, in which two members and others of the caucus of the NDP Government of that Province were involved, and where a United States flag was burned at the Consulate. Part of the note was in these terms:

The United States must protest strongly the participation of Ministers of the Government of Manitoba in this event which clearly gave it an official character and would appreciate assurances that such official support of hostile demonstrations will not be repeated.

I would like to ask three brief questions with respect to the note. Has the Canadian Government received an apology from the Government of Manitoba, which has been transmitted to the United States? If that has not been the case, has the Canadian Government apologized to the United States Government on behalf of the Government of Manitoba—

An Hon. Member: Better not!

Mr. Nielsen: I hear the voice of an NDP Member saying that the Canadian Government had better not do that. The last question of the series is: will the Government table a copy of any note which was sent by Canada to the United States in response to the original note?

[Translation]

Mr. Jean Lapierre (Parliamentary Secretary to Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs): Madam Speaker, the Canadian Government received the note