

Oral Questions

permit senior RCMP officials to collaborate, and I use that word with care, with private interest groups by divulging to them confidential information about other Canadians?

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, when it is in the interest of the government and Canadian security we do so.

• (1430)

Mr. Broadbent: Given the profound importance of this question to the existence of civil liberties in Canada, would the minister agree to appear, along with Assistant Commissioner Draper before an early session of the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs to explain the nature and purpose of the investigation supervised by Assistant Commissioner Draper?

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, I have been ready to go before the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs with my estimates for several weeks. I am prepared to go as soon as possible. Whether we can discuss matters of a security nature at the meeting is another question, but I am willing to give the committee as much as possible. In this regard I am taking the same position on this matter as former conservative and other governments.

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CANADA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**POLICY RESPECTING RETENTION OF CANADIAN OWNERSHIP OF BUSINESSES**

Mr. Bill Clarke (Vancouver Quadra): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In view of the announcement earlier this week in Vancouver of the purchase of shares in Ventures West Capital Limited by the Canadian branches of the Mitsubishi and Mitsui companies, which are two of Japan's largest trading companies, could the minister inform the House if the stated policy of the Canada Development Corporation has been changed in respect of foreign ownership of Canadian companies, particularly those in the natural resource field?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, in listening to the question it seemed to me to be a highly technical one. It is not one I am prepared to answer now, but I would be very happy to seek the information the hon. member desires.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member may ask a supplementary and I believe the hon. member for Winnipeg North has a supplementary to the previous question. He will be recognized next.

Mr. Clarke (Vancouver Quadra): Mr. Speaker, perhaps I could simplify the question for the minister. Is it the policy of the Canada Development Corporation to encourage the retention of Canadian ownership of Canadian businesses?

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Speaker, I do not think that particular question should be directed to me. I am not the minis-

[Mr. Broadbent.]

ter who reports to parliament for the Canada Development Corporation.

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NATIONAL SECURITY**ADDRESS BY RCMP ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER TO INDUSTRIAL SECURITY OFFICERS—CLEARANCE OF THOSE IN ATTENDANCE**

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a supplementary question to the Solicitor General. Can he tell the House whether every one of the industrial security officers who listened to the speech by the Assistant Commissioner of the RCMP was cleared by the RCMP or any other agency of government for security so that they were permitted to listen to the speech about security, the details of which cannot be given to Members of Parliament?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I would have to check into that. I do know that a good number of these industrial security officers were former members of the RCMP.

Mr. Orlikow: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the minister really intended to tell Members of Parliament that there are private citizens who are entitled to get details about security problems in this country that Members of Parliament are not entitled to get?

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, I have taken the position that I will give as much information as possible to Members of Parliament. It is for that reason I have invited the Justice and Legal Affairs Committee to visit the premises of the Police and Security Planning and Analysis Group for briefing. I am also attempting to make as many other reports as possible available, but where the security of the country is involved I do not think we are able to give reports on security matters to all Members of Parliament or to make them public generally.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. There are many supplementaries on this subject. Is the hon. member for Edmonton Centre rising on a supplementary?

Mr. Paproski: No, Mr. Speaker. This is a new question.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Edmonton Centre.

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THE SENATE**FILLING OF VACANCIES—CONSULTATION WITH OPPOSITION**

Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. In light of the nature of the present parliament, would he tell the House whether he is soon going to fill all the vacancies in the other place and, in light of the balance in the House, is he going to consult with the opposition on those appointments?