

job. It may be that the process will change, but I have no information on the matter at the present time.

● (1440)

**Senator MacEachen:** Honourable senators, the leader raises an interesting point. That is, who really is responsible for security at Canadian airports? Is it the airline companies or is it the Government of Canada through the Department of Transport? I asked this very question this morning and I did not get a clear answer. I have right in front of me the person who can give me a clear answer and that is the Leader of the Government. Is the Department of Transport the institution responsible for airport security and is it delegated by the department to the airlines? I have been told that in this particular case the delegation went from the Department of Transport to Air-India and to Air Canada. I do not know the facts. Perhaps the Leader of the Government would undertake to provide us with the clear line of authority and what delegation, if any, took place.

**Senator Roblin:** I shall try to do so. I know that at the present time the operation is divided. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police have authority for security of the airport as such, but the airlines have undertaken the responsibility of clearing the baggage of people who are boarding their aircraft. In order to be precise about it, I shall get a more definite statement for my friend.

**Hon. H. A. Olson:** Honourable senators, I have a specific supplementary question with respect to this matter. It may be that the Leader of the Government intended to seek an answer anyway, but there is some confusion as to who is responsible for the fact that all the baggage was not removed from the Air-India flight in question and re-examined when, I believe, three questionable pieces of baggage were found and detained. Perhaps he could give us some more precise information as to whose responsibility it was to determine whether all the baggage should be removed and whether the flight should have taken off without re-examining the baggage, which is the normal practice in such cases?

**Senator Roblin:** That is a question I shall have to address to my colleague who, in turn, will have to ask the authorities of Air-India about it.

**Senator Olson:** And the Minister of Transport.

## INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

### TRAINING SITES

**Hon. Ian Sinclair:** Honourable senators my question, which is along the same lines, has to do with the tragedies that occurred this past weekend. Having in mind the wonderful record in commercial aviation that Canada holds and has held, I wonder whether the government leader in the Senate could inform us as to what action the government will take with regard to terrorists being trained in another country, crossing our borders and bringing into our midst their lack of concern for human life?

**Hon. Duff Roblin (Leader of the Government):** I understand the point my honourable friend is making, and he has some reason to be proud of his association with the safety record of our airline industry. However, one must remember that these days terrorists are trained everywhere. They are not just trained in Louisiana—if I understand the import of the question correctly—but they are trained in Libya, Lebanon, East Germany, Bulgaria and other places where people have an interest in promoting this kind of activity. I do not know exactly how the government can undertake to deal with such a situation. It is simply outside our jurisdiction in every sense of the word.

What we have to do is our very best to identify such people and to make sure that they do not come into this country. However, there is something far more basic to the whole issue than that; namely, that the nations of the world who do not espouse terrorism as an aspect of national policy should be called upon to consider what we as a group of nations interested in dealing with the problems of terrorism can do to help one another and to ensure that this kind of outrageous behaviour does not spread further than it has done at the present time. I think that that is the challenge to the civilized world. I am not entirely sure yet what the Government of Canada will do about the problem, but if I have anything to say about it, they will take a lead in trying to organize such an approach to the problem.

**Senator Sinclair:** I thank the Leader of the Government for his remarks. Certainly something drastic has to be done. But when we see on our televisions and read in our newspapers references to a commando school in our neighbouring country, the United States, training terrorists, surely the government can take some action to bring such schools to an end immediately. Surely, you cannot have people saying on our television that they have trained Sikhs and indicating that they are proud of the fact that they trained them and that they have done well in such training. At least, that is what the leader of this school said on television this morning. Honourable senators can imagine what people working in the airline industry and passengers think when they hear those kinds of remarks. Surely there is something our government can do to preclude those schools from continuing.

**Senator Roblin:** I most emphatically agree that there is something our government can try to do. Though it is not within the jurisdiction of the Government of Canada, it is possible for the Government of Canada to make its views known. I feel confident in saying to my honourable friend that that will be done.

**Senator Sinclair:** Honourable senators, I am sure that many of you who have gone through international airports have noted the computer printout that is available to, for example, immigration officers of the United States. My question is: Do we have a similar printout in our airports, and is there not some way in which information on known terrorists can be put into these computers? Apparently it was known that three people who were under surveillance by the FBI somehow