Oral Questions

with the United Nations, we do not want to contradict their very strong advice and guidance to us.

REQUEST THAT ADVISORY COMMITTEE TRAVEL TO CENTRAL AMERICA

Mr. Dan Heap (Spadina): Madam Speaker, in view of the fact that many thousands of those refugees are not being relocated and integrated by the United Nations Commission—there are 6,000 in the United States, many of whom have sought to enter Canada and have been turned back by Canadian officials and refused consideration for refugee status—will the minister direct the Canadian immigration staff in the United States and elsewhere to assist El Salvadoran refugees to enter Canada quickly so they can be reviewed by the Refugee Status Advisory Committee? Alternatively, will the hon. gentleman direct the Refugee Status Advisory Committee to go to areas with no Canadian representation—many countries in Central America have no Canadian representatives—and review the status of those people who seek to be refugees in Canada?

Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Minister of Employment and Immigration): I would suggest it would be wise to check the facts of the hon. member's statements. Again, in the statement we made last spring in relation to El Salvador, we indicated that we were prepared to take El Salvadoran refugees from the United States who are not being granted status there. We were prepared to accept them here and we have a number of those cases in process at our embassy in Mexico which are being looked after by our immigration officers.

If the hon, member knows of cases that are being rejected, I would be pleased to look into them. Those are the rules and guidelines established and, as far as we know, those rules and guidelines are being honoured.

INDUSTRY

EFFECT OF UNITED STATES COURT RULING ON TIRE INDUSTRY IN NOVA SCOTIA

Hon. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Madam Speaker, I have a brief question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. He was questioned earlier by my colleague about the Canadian tire industry. He will know that there has been a recent court ruling in the United States which had the effect of varying or diluting the countervailing duties placed on Michelin tires. Since the tire industry is a very important one in Nova Scotia, which is in the foreground of technology, is the minister taking any steps or making any plans to take any steps in view of the recent court ruling, to further vary or change this dangerous and seldom used precedent that still has the effect of being a hindrance to the Canadian tire industry in Nova Scotia?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Madam Speaker, in our work for an appropriate

policy for the Canadian tire industry we are taking into account all the relevant elements and all its aspects, including Michelin in Nova Scotia.

GARRISON DIVERSION

SUGGESTED DISCUSSIONS WITH UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): My question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. As the minister knows, the United States has approved \$4 million for the Garrison Diversion Project in North Dakota under wording which instructs the United States Department of the Interior to resume work on the project in spite of the recent court ruling by Justice Ritchie. That particular instruction is in the form of a budget bill. It goes to the House of Representatives next week.

Since the House of Commons has unanimously signalled its concern over this project, is the government now contemplating sending an all-party committee made up of members from the House of Commons and possibly some representatives from the province of Manitoba, to Washington so they may be there next week to sit down and talk on a personal basis with the members of the House of Representatives who will be discussing this issue?

Hon. Mark MacGuigan (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Madam Speaker, the language which has been adopted by the Senate is identical to the language which I referred to in the House the other day and includes a direction that none of the money which is being appropriated may be used for construction which in any way affects Canada's interests. So there is within the bill itself that guarantee to us, in addition to the assurances we have received from the United States administration.

Nevertheless, I would be less than frank with the hon. member if I did not say to him, and I think he well knows, we are concerned about any expansion of this project because at some future time that might provide ground for pressures to extend it in a way which might harm us. I will certainly give consideration to his suggestion. I will consult the Minister of the Environment, the Minister of Employment and Immigration and other hon. members, as well as our sources in Washington, to see if it would be of assistance for us to have such a delegation there next week or in the future.

REQUEST THAT MINISTER CONSIDER FURTHER REPRESENTATIONS

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Madam Speaker, a brief supplementary—

And Mr. Trudeau having entered the chamber:

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!