

*Oral Questions*

come forward with some concrete results in the very near future.

REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN SEEKING LEGAL REDRESS

**Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby):** Mr. Speaker, surely the Minister recognizes that his Government was able to come up with over \$100,000 in payment to a former Conservative Member of Parliament who came up with a report saying that Canada had absolutely no legal or moral obligation to the victims of these terrible experiments.

I wish to ask the Minister of Justice this. It has been over one year now and one of the nine elderly victims has already passed away. How much longer do these Canadians have to wait before their Government will stand up for them and assist them financially in their pursuit of justice? How much longer must they wait?

**Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada):** Mr. Speaker, I simply reiterate the point made by the Hon. Member. There is no legal responsibility on the Government. Notwithstanding that fact, we are attempting to analyse the situation with a view to determining what assistance might be possible.

I want to remind the Hon. Member of the fact that we have been most helpful. We have gone to very great effort to try to determine precisely the background of this matter which concerns circumstances that occurred some years ago. I think the Government has shown a sensitivity toward this particular situation. I hope the Hon. Member will appreciate that and applaud the Government for its actions up to this point in time.

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DISASTERS

ANNIVERSARY OF AIR INDIA CRASH OFF IRISH COAST—  
HOMICIDE STATISTICS

**Mr. Bill Domm (Peterborough):** Mr. Speaker, June of 1987 marks the second anniversary of the Air India disaster which claimed the lives of some 329 passengers and crew on the flight which left a Canadian airport. An Indian inquiry has determined that the crash was caused by a bomb explosion in the forward cargo bay.

Can the Solicitor General explain why these 329 homicides have not yet appeared in Canadian statistical records? Will the Minister also answer this question? When they do appear will they appear in the year 1985 or in the year 1987?

**Hon. James Kelleher (Solicitor General of Canada):** Mr. Speaker, I regret to inform the Hon. Member that I can only advise him that the crash is still under very active investigation. For that reason I cannot make any further comments on it at this time.

**Mr. Nunziata:** Supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** Supplementary, the Hon. Member for York South—Weston.

REQUEST THAT ROYAL COMMISSION CONDUCT INVESTIGATION

**Mr. John Nunziata (York South—Weston):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on the same subject. While the Conservative Party may be interested in whether or not the tragic murder of over 300—

**Some Hon. Members:** Question!

**Mr. Nunziata:**—Canadians might be included in statistics, we in the Opposition are concerned about justice.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Some Hon. Members:** Sit down!

**Mr. Speaker:** If the Hon. Member has a question, he should put it.

**Mr. Nunziata:** Mr. Speaker, I ask the Solicitor General this. In view of the fact that it has been nearly two years since over 300 Canadians were murdered, will the Solicitor General on behalf of the Government of Canada initiate a royal commission inquiry into the deaths? There has not been one held in Canada while there has been one held in Cork, Ireland, and another in India. Will he give an undertaking to the House that there will be a royal commission inquiry to assist the police in order to prosecute those who are responsible for those murders?

**Hon. James Kelleher (Solicitor General of Canada):** Mr. Speaker, I can only reply to the Hon. Member by advising him, as I have in the past, that there is indeed an ongoing investigation. It is extremely active. I do not think that the interests of that investigation would be served by a royal commission at this time.

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CANADIAN ARMED FORCES

BLACK WATCH REGIMENT—PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN PARADE

**Mr. Derek Blackburn (Brant):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Defence concerning the fact that women of the Black Watch will not be allowed to parade before the Queen Mother this Saturday in Montreal.

Will the Minister ensure that the Queen Mother sees that Canada treats women as equals by directing the Black Watch to have women included in its parade on Saturday?

**Hon. Perrin Beatty (Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, I think this is an important question. Women will be