

Order Paper Questions

Mr. Speaker: An interesting point has been raised on both sides, but this is not a point of order.

MR. CROUSE—REPLY BY SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DURING QUESTION PERIOD

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order which is related to the response given to the House earlier this afternoon by the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Jamieson) to a question posed by the hon. member for Esquimalt-Saanich (Mr. Munro).

If my memory serves me correctly, at that time the minister implied that we have no ongoing aid to Cuba policy at the present time. This is a direct contradiction of information made available within the last few days in committee when we were informed that we have an ongoing policy of aid to Cuba effective from 1972 to the present time.

● (1542)

This is a very important point, because international newspapers report that at the present time there are some 23,000 Cuban troops in Angola, some 12,000 Cuban troops in Ethiopia, and 5,000 or more Cuban troops in some 14 other African nations. This, of course, raises the question of whether Canadians should be supporting with their tax dollars foreign aggression by the Cubans in Africa.

The question I raise, sir, is designed to seek clarification of Canada's foreign policy. I endeavoured to do this when the minister gave his response, but unfortunately I could not catch the Speaker's eye. In the light of statements that a third world war may not start in the Middle East, but that the catalyst could be the Cuban troops in Angola and elsewhere in Africa, this matter should be clarified for the benefit of the House of Commons and the Canadian people.

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. Yvon Pinard (Parliamentary Secretary to President of Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: 1,170, 1,185, 1,186 and 1,188.

[Text]

FINANCIAL INTEREST IN COMPUTER SHARING OF CANADA LTD.

Question No. 1,170—**Mr. Andre:**

1. What is the Crown's precise financial interest in Computer Sharing of Canada Limited as administered by the Department of Finance through the Canadian Development Corporation and Polysar Limited and on what date was such interest acquired, at what cost and for what reason?

2. What was the book value of the Crown's equity on the date of acquisition and what is its latest estimated book value?

3. To date, what is the Crown's total investment, including equity costs, contributions to operating funds, debt forgiveness and what is the Crown's total realized profit from such investment?

[Mr. Martin.]

4. In what manner is the Crown's interest represented (a) on the Board of Directors (b) in its senior management?

5. Did the government make a policy decision in regard to the future disposition of its interest?

Mr. Ed Lumley (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance): 1. The Crown has no financial interest in Computer Sharing of Canada Limited nor does the Department of Finance administer any interests through the "Canadian Development Corporation". The Canada Development Corporation, which is not a Crown Corporation or an agent of Her Majesty, is a corporation in which Parliament authorized the government, by the CDC Act, to acquire shares. The government is now one of more than 17,000 shareholders.

2. The 1976 Annual Report of the Canada Development Corporation reports that Computer Sharing of Canada Limited is a subsidiary of Polysar Limited.

3. See 1.

4. (a) The Deputy Minister of Finance and the Deputy Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, are ex officio members of the board of directors of the Canada Development Corporation. (b) See 1.

5. No. See 1.

FINANCIAL INTEREST IN POP SHOPPES INTERNATIONAL INCORPORATED

Question No. 1,185—**Mr. Andre:**

1. What is the Crown's precise financial interest in Pop Shoppes International Incorporated as administered by the Department of Finance through the Canadian Development Corporation and on what date was such interest acquired, at what cost and for what reason?

2. What was the book value of the Crown's equity on the date of acquisition and what is its latest estimated book value?

3. To date, what is the Crown's total investment, including equity costs, contributions to operating funds, debt forgiveness and what is the Crown's total realized profit from such investment?

4. In what manner is the Crown's interest represented (a) on the Board of Directors (b) in its senior management?

5. Did the government make a policy decision in regard to the future disposition of its interest?

Mr. Ed Lumley (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance): 1. The Crown has no financial interest in Pop Shoppes International Inc., nor does the Department of Finance administer any interests through the Canadian Development Corporation". The Canada Development Corporation, which is not a Crown corporation or an agent of Her Majesty, is a corporation in which parliament authorized the government, by the CDC Act, to acquire shares. The government is now one of more than 17,000 shareholders.

2. The 1976 Annual Report of the Canada Development Corporation reports that CDC has a 32 per cent investment in the shares of Venturitek International Ltd., which in turn owns 56.0 per cent of Pop Shoppes International Inc.

3. See 1.

4. (a) The Deputy Minister of Finance and the Deputy Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, are ex officio