

indicated that he had some questions regarding the Prince Rupert situation. Since during Committee of the Whole the honourable senator discussed the matter with the minister, perhaps he will consider the information that he received to be as up-to-date as any information that could possibly be had at this point.

Also, earlier Senator Corbin inquired about an answer that he had been promised in reply to a question concerning economic development in New Brunswick, the fate of federal government projects announced during the provincial election campaign.

I have an answer to Senator Corbin's question, and delayed answers to several others. I will be glad to read the answers to the questions if it is the wish of honourable senators; otherwise I suggest that they be printed as part of today's proceedings.

HUMAN RIGHTS

JAPANESE CANADIANS—GOVERNMENT COMPENSATION

Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, I have a delayed answer to a question asked on October 6, by Senator Grafstein, regarding redress for Canadians of Japanese origin—government compensation.

(The answer follows:)

In an effort to find a satisfactory solution, the government has held extensive consultations with the Japanese Canadian community and its largest representative group, the National Association of Japanese Canadians (NAJC).

The first requisite of the NAJC was for an official acknowledgement of the injustices suffered by Japanese Canadians. The Secretary of State, the Hon. D. Crombie, met this demand by promising that the House of Commons would, indeed, offer such an acknowledgement.

The Association also demanded assurances that incidents of this nature would never recur. On June 26, the Minister of National Defence, the Hon. P. Beatty, introduced Bill C-76 in the House of Commons. This legislation, when enacted, will replace the War Measures Act with better options for handling national emergencies.

In addition, the government has offered to establish a \$12 million community fund that would be controlled by representatives of the various Japanese Canadian communities across the country. The NAJC has rejected this offer and demanded individual payments to people, regardless of loss or need. Collectively, this would exceed \$400 million. The government does not consider this to be an equitable solution, for reasons that have been fully explained to the organization.

HEALTH AND WELFARE

AIDS—AVAILABILITY IN CANADA OF DRUG AZT

Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, on November 19 a question was

asked by the Honourable Stanley Haidasz regarding Health and Welfare—AIDS—Availability in Canada of the Drug AZT

(The answer follows:)

The drug AZT has been available in Canada for the treatment of patients with AIDS and severely depressed T-4 cell counts since November 4, 1986. This arrangement was facilitated by the federal government, and particularly by the provision of over \$1 million for clinical trials of the drug. The federal government is also sharing the cost of AZT, some \$12,000 per patient per year, with the provinces, under the terms of federal-provincial health and social service funding arrangements.

AZT may not be licensed for unrestricted use. AZT also has serious side effects, and careful patient monitoring is essential. This is best achieved by maintaining the drug in experimental status.

AIR CANADA

LABOUR DISPUTE—CURRENT SITUATION

Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, on December 8 a question was asked by the Honourable Hazen Argue regarding the dispute between Air Canada and the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers.

(The answer follows:)

Telexes sent by the Minister of Labour on December 7 to Air Canada and the union, urging a resumption of negotiations, were sent on the Minister's initiative without prior discussion with either party. The telexes were sent to the parties within minutes of each other. In the case of the union, their telex was sent Special Delivery as they do not have their own telex machine. However, a copy of the telex was immediately transmitted to the union by facsimile. Any delay in the receipt of the Minister's message would appear to be due to the delivery process.

FISHERIES

MUSSEL INDUSTRY—GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, on December 8 a question was asked by the Honourable Senator Bonnell regarding Fisheries—Mussel Industry—Government Assistance.

(The answer follows:)

The Government is extremely concerned about the economic well-being of those producers in Atlantic Canada affected by the removal of all live Atlantic clams, mussels, oysters and quahaugs from the Canadian retail market. Nevertheless, the health of Canadians remains the government's first priority. Suspect products have now been removed from the marketplace. A new supply of products will re-enter the marketplace within days as