

*Oral Questions*

Agency? If they take control as is now proposed, and if they decide to lower the per tonne price below \$95, with its prorated escalating clause over the next 15 years, does the minister tell this House and tell the people of Canada that we are going to get a return on the \$1 billion-odd we have put into this project so far?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Transport):** Madam Speaker, I think I understand what the hon. member is insinuating. He is saying that because for future advantages the coal mines of Canada—or he is implying that—did not get the best price for their coal some months ago when the deal was put together—

**Some hon. Members:** No, no.

**Mr. Pepin:** Well, I will give my hon. friend the opportunity to clear up the matter. And consequently he is saying these advantages are being paid now by way of allowing the Japanese purchasers of the coal to come in as equity owners in the coal mine itself. That is my understanding of what my hon. friend is saying. What I am going to answer to that is that obviously, if there is foreign ownership in these coal mines, it will be subject to FIRA, and FIRA and the Government of Canada will decide if those acquisitions are to the advantage of Canada as stated in the legislation itself.

**Mr. Fulton:** A final supplementary—

**Madam Speaker:** The hon. member for St. John's West.

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● (1425)

**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS****ISRAEL—REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL FROM LEBANON**

**Hon. John C. Crosbie (St. John's West):** Madam Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister wrote to the Prime Minister of Israel on June 9 asking him to agree to a cease fire and to withdraw immediately and unconditionally from Lebanese territory. Has the Prime Minister received an answer to that request from the Prime Minister of Israel and, if so, what is the answer?

Can the Prime Minister tell us whether it is still the position of the Government of Canada that Israel should withdraw unconditionally from Lebanese territory, and could the Prime Minister outline for us any steps he has taken since to accomplish these objectives?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Madam Speaker, that is the position of the Government of Canada, and I believe it is also the position of this House of Commons, which voted unanimously for a motion, moved by the hon. member himself, asking Israel to withdraw immediately and unconditionally. That motion was supported by the hon. member's party, by the New Democratic Party and by the

Liberal Party. It is also a position I have taken in representations to Prime Minister Begin.

**Mr. Crosbie:** Madam Speaker, the Prime Minister forgot part of the question. I asked the Prime Minister whether he has heard back from the Prime Minister of Israel with respect to his correspondence with him and what steps the government has taken since then to see that these objectives are met. I would like the Prime Minister to address himself to that when he responds to my supplementary question.

**REPLY TO CANADIAN REQUEST—POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF PEACEKEEPING FORCE**

**Hon. John C. Crosbie (St. John's West):** Madam Speaker, as a supplementary question I would like to ask the Prime Minister whether Canada is prepared to consider being a member of an international peacekeeping force in that area, if one is set up either under UN auspices or agreed to by the parties. As the Prime Minister knows, it has been stated by Israel that Israel would like a more effective peacekeeping force. Israel has asked the United States to participate. Would Canada be prepared to participate? Would the Prime Minister deal with those points?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Madam Speaker, I will attempt to answer the questions in order. Yes, I did receive an answer from Prime Minister Begin. His attitude was contrary to that which I had expressed and the House of Commons had expressed. He believed Israel should not withdraw immediately and unconditionally.

In so far as a so-called peacekeeping force is concerned, the hon. member will realize that his question is hypothetical in its very form: if a peacekeeping force is set up, what will the Government of Canada do? I do not believe I should attempt to answer a hypothetical question, but as a partial response to that, and to the second question, I will say that I discussed the matter with the Secretary General of the United Nations when I met him on Friday of the week before last. I discussed the matter with him and his officials at some length. The question of such a force was raised, and we exchanged views on it.

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**THE BUDGET****PRE-PRESENTATION LOCKUP FOR MEDIA AND MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT**

**Hon. Michael Wilson (Etobicoke Centre):** Madam Speaker, my question was to be directed to the Minister of Finance. I am surprised he is not in the House on the day of his budget.

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

**Mr. Jarvis:** He is out buying new shoes, Mike. They are likely imported shoes, too.

**Mr. Crosbie:** Does he want any mukluks?

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