

Oral Questions

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Secretary of State for External Affairs): First of all, Mr. Speaker, I want to return the compliment by thanking the hon. member for giving me notice. The position is that I would hope we can make progress at the Vancouver meetings next Monday with Japan. The bilateral agreements are not necessarily hinged on the results of the Group of Seven study. The problems between our two points of view have been identified. Perhaps the most substantive one at the moment is the question of double labelling; that is to say, when supplies from Canada go into the United States, it is the Canadian position that they remain under Canadian control, and also through the full life and into the Japanese cycle. The Japanese are maintaining that the Canadian regulations should not go that far, but it is possible that in the talks next week we will arrive at some mutual agreement which will enable us to resume shipments.

POSSIBILITY OF RESUMPTION OF SALES OF SUPPLIES TO INDIA
FOR NUCLEAR REACTOR

Mr. James Gillies (Don Valley): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Again in relation to the immediacy of these negotiations, I understand that the Prime Minister is now talking to the prime minister of India about Canada's role in exporting to that country. I should like to ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs what is the likelihood of the resumption of Canada's dealing with India in the field of nuclear supplies, given the fact that we had an unfortunate experience with that country in the past.

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I would say that the likelihood of an immediate resumption is slight if one is speaking in terms of months. However, prior to the Prime Minister's leaving for London we were encouraged by some of the statements which had been made by the new administration in India. It is these statements on which the Prime Minister is seeking additional clarification. I do not think it is an improper disclosure to say that the Prime Minister will obviously be urging that the Indian government adopt the Canadian policy, namely that of full scope safeguards. I have not as yet heard anything from London on the outcome of what I gather were quite preliminary discussions yesterday, but I understand that more substantive talks between the two prime ministers will take place this weekend.

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ENERGY

ALLEGED PARTICIPATION BY CANADA IN INTERNATIONAL
URANIUM PRICE-FIXING CARTEL—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. Ray Hnatyshyn (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs and it relates to the statement made last week by the president of Gulf Oil Corporation that he had been ordered by the government to participate in an international uranium price-fixing cartel which operated between 1972 and 1975. In

[Mr. Gillies.]

view of the federal grand jury investigations into anti-trust allegations involving the Canadian government, the congressional investigations and the \$2.5 billion worth of litigation carried on by Westinghouse in the United States, will the minister tell the House what action the government is taking to resolve this situation?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, with your permission, I will answer that question because it affects certain aspects of the administration of my department. There is no secret about the fact that Canada was engaged in a producers group or producers club aimed at trying to provide a stability of price for uranium, and indeed the survival of certain communities in Canada. The question which has been highlighted by the president of Gulf in a recent statement is that the Canadian subsidiary passed information to the United States parent corporation and that some of that information may be made public in the United States. It is confidential information originating from government sources. It is something I regret very much, and we took action to prevent it happening.

DATE OF INTRODUCTION OF CONTROLS ON OWNERSHIPS OF
URANIUM MINES AND FACILITIES

Mr. Ray Hnatyshyn (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, my recollection is that this answer of the minister is completely contradictory to an earlier answer he made in which he denied the existence of any arrangements whatsoever.

I want to ask the minister, in light of the problem of extraterritoriality facing the uranium industry, when the government intends to bring forward the controls on foreign ownership of Canadian uranium which have been promised for so long? The former minister, the Hon. J. J. Greene, made a statement of policy in 1970, but there has been no indication of legislation being brought forth to put into place a precise policy respecting the ownership of uranium mines and facilities in Canada.

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I hope to be able to bring it forth in this current session. As the hon. member knows, there is clearly no possibility of introducing such legislation and getting it through before this session rises. As a consequence, therefore, I would expect that we would have to wait until the next session to introduce the legislation. I hope to have the co-operation of the House to proceed expeditiously.

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COMBINES

ALLEGED PRICE-FIXING ARRANGEMENT FOR SALE OF
URANIUM—REQUEST FOR REPORT

Mr. Ray Hnatyshyn (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my supplementary question to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. In view of the statement which has just been made by the Minister of Energy, Mines