

*Oral Questions*

blueprint for doing just that has been presented to him on the floor of this House on several recent occasions.

● (1440)

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Madam Speaker, this is known as the rhetorical question. The Hon. Member is prepared to discuss his views on policy. We are discussing ours. As a matter of fact I have just had lunch with Canadian businessmen who are doing with the Chinese markets, precisely what the Hon. Member suggests they should be doing. This is something which is a matter for debate. If the Hon. Member has any ideas, apart from questions, he could express these ideas in a debate to which I welcome him. However, as usual, the Hon. Member, like his party, is better at asking questions than giving answers.

**Mr. Hees:** Madam Speaker, I have presented various programs to the Prime Minister in this House on several occasions and he has taken no action on them at all.

**Madam Speaker:** Order, please.

\* \* \*

**HOUSE OF COMMONS**

PRESENCE IN GALLERY OF STATE COUNCILLOR AND MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, MR. WU XUEQIAN

**Madam Speaker:** I would like to draw the attention of the House to the presence in our gallery of Mr. Wu Xueqian, who is the State Councillor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

\* \* \*

**NORTHERN AFFAIRS**

PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH HARBOUR AT STOKES POINT

**Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. I am sure he is aware that in 1978 the Government of Canada accepted the recommendations of Mr. Justice Thomas Berger, which were supported at that time by the National Energy Board, that the area on the North Slope in the Yukon be withdrawn from development for the purpose, particularly, of a national wildlife park and conservation area. Would the Minister reconfirm the July 21 promise he made at Rankin Inlet, that should he proceed and accept the Gulf application for Stokes or King Point, he will return to Cabinet and obtain an Order in Council for that purpose.

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Madam Speaker, I believe it would be premature to give the Hon. Member an assurance of that kind simply because—and I believe he would be aware of this

—there is a project review group on the North Slope, now in the midst of deliberations. It has agreed, hopefully, to give me its recommendations in about a week from now, certainly by October 17. It is looking at the whole question of Stokes Point alternatives. I believe it is considering other elements which could possibly form some type of package arrangement in terms of national wilderness parks.

I believe the Hon. Member would certainly agree that I should await the recommendations of that group. It consists of all the varied interests, including representatives from COPE and the native interests. I am sure the Hon. Member will agree that we should wait and see what that group will come up with before making any further decisions on this matter.

**POSITION OF YUKON GOVERNMENT**

**Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena):** Madam Speaker, the people of Canada trusted in the recommendations of Mr. Justice Thomas Berger, on the very project about which the Minister is talking. Given that one half of the representatives on the North Slope project review group were appointed by the Yukon Territorial Government, I wonder if the Minister would tell this House whether or not, on behalf of the Government of Canada, he supports the statements made to the Leader of the Yukon Government, Mr. Pearson, from the Deputy Minister of Economic Development, and I quote:

—without economic growth the North could become a large "reservation" with our native population comprising the majority of the population.

... YTG must do everything possible to ensure that some of the Beaufort Sea hydrocarbon action is centred in Yukon, e.g. Stokes or King Point.

It is pretty clear, Madam Speaker, that the position of the Yukon Government is blatantly racist—

**Madam Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Madam Speaker, if the comments set out in that letter from Mr. Lang to Mr. Pearson, as read by the Hon. Member, are correct, I also find them objectionable. May I also say that a letter from a Minister to his Leader does not necessarily represent Government policy. I believe that is the situation there. Let us see what are the recommendations of the task force. The position of the Government of the Yukon will be presented to that task force. Presumably it will be the position of the Yukon Government, not the personal, rather objectionable views of Mr. Lang.

\* \* \*

**CRIMINAL CODE**

HIGHWAY FATALITIES—NEED FOR LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

**Hon. J. Robert Howie (York-Sunbury):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice. In view of the recent OECD report which shows Canada has the second highest rate of highway fatalities in the world, will the Minister tell the House if he plans to introduce any new programs or