

Mr. SALTSMAN: In other words, they make the decisions, rather than the nations involved?

Mr. CONVEY: I would think so.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Faulkner, did you have a supplementary question? Mr. Wahn has indicated he would like to ask a question.

Mr. FAULKNER: No, my previous question was a supplementary one. I am down on that list to raise something else.

The CHAIRMAN: Do you want to go back to the original question you wanted to ask?

Mr. FAULKNER: It is very brief, and I am not sure whether it falls within this jurisdiction. We were talking about the resources, and stockpiling of resources. I agree with the answer made to Mr. Peters' question. I do not think it is an across the board, sensible thing to do, but there may be certain raw materials where this is necessary, and I am thinking particularly of copper. I am wondering whether someone could give us a statement about what the position of copper is. It is hard to get a clearcut answer on this, whether the export permit system—now, this is the area where you may not be in a position to give an answer—is, in fact, working effectively to curtail the export of copper products. I am particularly interested in the supply of copper. On the basis of an answer on that, we might be able to get some information on the exports from another committee.

Mr. DROLET: The point is, you would like to ask why some Canadian companies have more trouble to get their supply of copper than a U.K. company at a high price?

Mr. FAULKNER: Well, that is what I was working at, but since you have asked, perhaps you would like to answer it.

Mr. DROLET: Well, unlike yourself, I do not understand all the time how the pricing of commodities in the world works. Sure, demand puts the price up, and this and that. And as I mentioned to you the last time, the department responsible for the export of copper in Canada is the Department of Trade and Commerce in conjunction with the Department of Finance, which is the big policy making department. We sit on those committees as mineral economists, because we supply the basic information of what we have here in Canada, what we can produce, what are the reserves; in other words, what is exactly our position in relation to this metal. We consider also our exports. We are talking about a big export product, copper. And then, let us say, we are stuck a little bit; copper is not only confined to Canada or to one province or another. You have to look at it on a continental basis, Canada and the United States, we are together, we are in the same boat, and we follow prices there.

If the price of copper in the United States goes up or down, you have noticed we follow the following morning or the day after. Why? Because we are obliged to do so; this is it. So we have sat many times and discussed these problems, taking also into consideration the case of the big stockpiles of material that they have in the United States. Maybe if we did not follow what is