

Oral Questions

policy I stand to be corrected, but I would have to examine that policy.

I could say that it is not a policy that we would share or follow. As the hon. lady knows, this government has always refused to ship arms or any form of military hardware to countries which were trouble spots, such as this.

Miss Jewett: Madam Speaker, I would like to preface my supplementary question to the Prime Minister by saying as the Secretary of State for External Affairs is now informing him, that there is an additional \$5 million which is going into lethal military aid—guns, ammunition and combat helicopters—over and above the other \$5 million in what is called “non-lethal” military aid.

The Prime Minister mentioned speaking about this when he was recently in Mexico City. I wonder if he was able to meet the executive members of the democratic revolutionary front from El Salvador who wished to meet with him in Mexico City. If he was not able to do so, and since executive members of the front will be in Ottawa this week, will he meet with them this week in Ottawa?

Mr. Trudeau: Madam Speaker, I remind the hon. lady that I arrived in Mexico merely in time for dinner with the president. I left the next morning. It would have been impossible for me to meet with such a group.

I accept the hon. lady's earlier point about the military aid. The Secretary of State for External Affairs informs me that she is, of course, correct. I was not aware of this.

In so far as meeting with the group, which she suggests, the Secretary of State for External Affairs tells me that he will be meeting with them.

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FISHERIES

DESIGNATION OF PART-TIME FISHERMEN

Mr. Brian Tobin (Humber-Port au Port-St. Barbe): Madam Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans. As the minister knows, a new licensing regime is under way in Atlantic Canada to determine who are part-time and who are full-time fishermen. Can the minister assure this House that no fisherman who has been designated part-time to this point in time will be denied the right to participate in the fishery this year to the same extent to which he participated last year, until such time as he has had an opportunity to test his part-time designation before an appeal committee? The minister may know that many of us are concerned that these appeal committees may not have time to hear all the appeals which are forthcoming. Can he give us some assurance with respect to this matter?

Hon. Roméo LeBlanc (Minister of Fisheries and Oceans): Madam Speaker, I certainly can give the hon. member some assurance.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. LeBlanc: If hon. members opposite wish to listen they may learn a couple of things.

Madam Speaker, there were a number of appeals put forward by fishermen and they are being heard. Where there are simple mistakes which can be corrected by departmental personnel, this is being done—and there were some because we are dealing with a very large number of people. But no one whose status is uncertain will be deprived. There will be temporary permits issued for the coming season. This is particularly applicable to the herring fishery.

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BANK ACT

INQUIRY WHEN REGULATIONS WILL BE PUBLISHED

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Madam Speaker, in view of the absence of the Minister of State for Finance, may I direct my question to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance. In view of the fact that the Bank Act was passed by this Parliament prior to November 30—almost six weeks has elapsed since then—and that under several of the provisions of the act regulations must be published and remain published for 60 days before they become operative, would the parliamentary secretary advise us when we can expect those regulations as a total package, so that the Bank Act will not be standing still for four or five months, or more, before it will be fully operative?

Mr. John Evans (Parliamentary Secretary to Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance): Madam Speaker, I can assure the hon. gentleman that the regulations are moving along at a very rapid rate. I cannot give him an exact date as to when all the regulations will be promulgated. I can assure him they will be brought down very shortly and I will undertake to get an exact date for him, if I can.

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PRIVILEGE

MISS MACDONALD—STATEMENTS MADE BY MR. AXWORTHY

Hon. Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Madam Speaker, you will recall that last week I raised the question of the pressure that was being brought to bear on the president of the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women and, indeed, on other members, by the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Mr. Axworthy) who is responsible for the status of women. This matter took the form of both questions in the House and a question of privilege. In the minister's response during the discussion on the question of privilege, he quoted and, in fact, based his remarks and defence to a large extent on a statement from a press release, which appears at page 6140 of *Hansard*, and which reads:

The executive committee in December expressed concern about the timing of the constitutional conference.