

*Inquiries of the Ministry***NATIONAL DEFENCE**

CLOSING OF RIVERS AND GIMLI AIR BASES—MEETING  
WITH MANITOBA GOVERNMENT

**Mr. Craig Stewart (Marquette):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. Can the Prime Minister tell the House whether a meeting between himself and the Manitoba government concerning the closing of the air bases at Rivers and Gimli has been requested and, if so, when the meeting will take place?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, there has been some correspondence between the premier of Manitoba and myself on the question of base closures, but I do not believe a meeting with me has been scheduled. There have been a considerable number of meetings at the official level, and also the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion and the Minister of Supply and Services have been involved in the question.

**Mr. Speaker:** Orders of the day.

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[Translation]

**AIRPORTS**

STE SCHOLASTIQUE—AGREEMENT BETWEEN FEDERAL  
GOVERNMENT AND QUEBEC RESPECTING ACCESS ROADS

**Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette):** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, in view of the invitation of the Prime Minister to direct my question to the Minister of Transport and the urgency of this question.

We all know that there was a meeting between the Minister of Transport and the Quebec authorities about the development of the Ste Scholastique international airport. Could the minister tell us if, following this meeting, agreements were reached?

**Mr. Speaker:** At this stage there is no need for a point of order. Besides, if the House allows the minister to answer now the question asked by the hon. member for Joliette, I have no objection.

[English]

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, I think that the short answer is that the province of Quebec and the government of Canada have agreed to co-operate in the general planning for the area surrounding the airport and for access to the airport.

Studies are under way to determine what is the best means of achieving better access. It may be better high-ways or a better rapid transit system or a combination of these. These studies are continuing but at the moment in any event no agreement has been reached in the specific sense my hon. friend, I suggest, is implying.

**Mr. Speaker:** Orders of the day.

[Mr. Speaker.]

**SPEECH FROM THE THRONE**

CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON ADDRESS IN REPLY

The House resumed, from Thursday, October 8, consideration of the motion of Mr. Jacques-L. Trudel for an address to His Excellency the Governor General in reply to his speech at the opening of the session.

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to begin by congratulating the mover and seconder of the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. The hon. member for Bourassa (Mr. Trudel) spoke very well and very briefly. That is always meritorious and I think particularly meritorious in respect of anyone speaking in support of the Speech from the Throne that was read yesterday. I must say I would like to follow this example, but since I am speaking from a somewhat different point of view it might not be possible for me to be quite as brief today, Mr. Speaker.

In respect of the hon. member for Assiniboia (Mr. Douglas), who seconded the motion, may I say that I enjoyed his remarks. I appreciate the praise he had for his own constituency and I appreciate the praise he had for his government. I sympathized with him somewhat when he was attempting to pay due respect to his government and at the same time give the proper emphasis to the difficulties related to agriculture in his constituency.

Certainly, both members discharged their responsibility very well indeed. As to the Speech from the Throne, I might say it reminds one of the style of the government; words take the place of substance. There is certainly a very stark contrast between the high-flown language in the speech and the actual proposals made which, for the most part, were flat, repetitious and vague. In fact, there seemed to be very little relationship between the high-flown phrases and the proposals.

We were exhorted, we were praised, we were told of a new age, of a world-wide crisis and of the need for bold enterprise. These are fine words. At one place we were told:

The Government continues, therefore, to direct its efforts in increasing measures to those tasks where Canadian initiative and Canadian competence may prove to be as effective as has other Canadian enterprise in the past.

I do not know what that means, but I consider it to be a reference to the Post Office.

The Throne Speech comes out flatly and unequivocally for such things as human differences and freedom—sometimes called liberty—equality of opportunity, tolerance, and in one never-to-be-forgotten phrase, pride and modesty at the same time. It also mentions favourably in passing, imagination, daring, initiative, ingenuity and warmth. Just in case after all that we might not quite realize what it is all about, the speech tells us that we Canadians are reasonable and wise.

I should like again, Mr. Speaker, to quote a sparkling remark:

—we—