

between the parties. I think they will relieve a great deal of the pressure.

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TRADE

DANGER OF CONFRONTATION BETWEEN OIL PRODUCING AND CONSUMING COUNTRIES—POSSIBILITY OF MEETING OF THE TWO GROUPS IN CANADA

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Prime Minister. In view of the very dangerous confrontation that is developing between the OPEC or oil producing exporting countries and the currently designed organization of industrial states of Europe, North America and Japan to form an opposition consumers group, would the Prime Minister seriously consider offering Canada as the host country, as both an importer and exporter of oil, to bring these consumers and producers of oil together to set up an international commodity agreement on oil so that we can have a rule of law instead of this dangerous confrontation?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is right in talking about the danger of any confrontation developing. He will recall, of course, that the position of the government all through the time of the crisis has been one of trying to avoid that kind of confrontation between the two groups. It still is the policy of the government. As to the suggestion about having the meeting here, I would certainly discuss it with the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources to see whether this is a proposition which could advance the debate. However, I certainly share entirely the hon. member's concern.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

SUGGESTED ADDITIONAL AID TO THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES IN THE FORM OF OIL—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I have a related question which I should like to direct to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the tremendous difficulties the world is facing because of this imbalance in respect of oil supplies and so on, would the new Secretary of State for External Affairs seriously consider, since we have not too much grain to give the newly developing countries which are bothered by balance of payment difficulties, adding oil as a new product in our foreign aid program helping the nations and hopefully to encourage other exporting nations into taking similar action and thereby give a new dimension toward helping the third world?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the Canadian effort up to the present has been not inclusive of oil to my knowledge. It has been concentrated on food and fertilizer for which the Canadian government has made a substantial contribution. I will be happy to consider the implications of the

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hon. member's question because I have not considered it up to the moment.

CANADIAN POSITION ON PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN VIEW OF ACCEPTANCE OF SUCH WEAPONS FROM UNITED STATES

Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the minister's recent address to the United Nations in which he expressed concern over the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the world, would the minister advise the House if the long standing government policy of accepting United States nuclear weapons on Canadian soil will now be reviewed?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, that particular aspect was not included in my speech.

Mr. Leggatt: Mr. Speaker, since the reply of the minister was really not an answer I think I am entitled to repeat my question briefly. Does the minister not consider that this long standing position adds to the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the world in terms of this government's policy, and will this government now review its position in terms of accepting nuclear weapons on Canadian soil.

Mr. MacEachen: Well, Mr. Speaker, it would be highly obstinate not to agree to consider this proposal advanced by an hon. member. I will make that commitment, but I do not ask him to hold his breath for an answer at this time.

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INDIAN AFFAIRS

SUGGESTED MINISTERIAL MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF NATIVE ORGANIZATIONS TO DISCUSS PROBLEMS

Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. I should also like to wish him well in his deliberations as he assumes this most sensitive and increasingly crucial portfolio. Could the minister advise the House on whether the government has taken any initiative or any steps to arrange an immediate—and I stress "immediate"—ministerial meeting with representatives of the national native organizations to discuss the urban, social and economic problems which are causing mounting concern and frustration among our native people?

● (1200)

Hon. Judd Buchanan (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): The answer is no, Mr. Speaker.

Miss MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Will the minister undertake to discuss with his cabinet colleagues the arrangement for such a meeting?

Mr. Buchanan: I will be happy to consider that, Mr. Speaker.