

the announcement it could lead to land speculation and a possible enrichment of people who are "in the know", at the expense of the Canadian taxpayer. This affects the responsibility and obligations of every member of parliament and is at the very root of the oath of office taken by Privy Councillors. Therefore it calls for close investigation.

This first fact establishes a reasonable prima facie case for examination and review. It arises because this matter was dealt with in the house yesterday and questions were put to the Prime Minister today.

Second, there has been a breach of the privileges of this house in that cabinet secrets have been divulged in a video production centre contrary to the rules governing parliament. I will say at this point that I have information that this news was video taped and that the tapes were carried by a Montreal commercial enterprise. So there was no chance of keeping this information secret, if these people wanted to use that information. This method of disseminating news is a breach of the privileges of the house and of every hon. member here, and indeed is contrary to all the fundamental principles of a democratic Cabinet government.

Therefore parliament, which is the highest court of the land, is entitled to know by examination and review whether this method of disseminating the news was used by any members of the government. One must be fair in these matters, and that is why I call for an examination and review. Proof of the leak of information can only be determined by an inquiry at which ministers and witnesses can be examined and tapes and documents can be checked. I hope they will not be destroyed, as they were on one other occasion. Documents can be checked, and if it is determined immediately that there is no foundation to the allegation that this method of disseminating the news has been used, we will all be happy that truth has prevailed. However, if on the other hand such an inquiry should disclose other facts, then proper steps will have to be taken by the government and by those involved.

My question of privilege is that if this information has been put on video tapes which were carried across the nation by a commercial enterprise, and if the people who made those tapes were not put under an oath of secrecy, then this is what I would call a cabinet leak and it is equal to a budget leak. I need not bring to Your Honour's attention the two famous cases in the history of political

Location of new International Airport

science. One was of the Hon. Mr. Thomas, Colonial Secretary in Great Britain, who made a statement to another member of parliament, Mr. Butt, with reference to the price of beer being affected by the budget. He resigned because of this indiscretion. That was in 1936. Then we also have the famous Dalton case in which the Hon. Sir Hugh Dalton, on entering the chamber with a budget speech, spoke to John Carvel, correspondent of a newspaper called the "Star". Apparently the news release went out prior to the completion of the budgetary speech by Sir Hugh Dalton. He resigned because of his indiscretion.

We tried to solicit information from the cabinet today and particularly from a minister who, according to the roster, should be here today. This is the news that went across the land this morning:

CKCM's and CKEY's Ottawa bureau has learned that information concerning the exact location of Montreal's new international airport was leaked by cabinet sources five days before the announcement was made in the House of Commons.

Montreal's new international airport is to be located 26 miles north of the city near St. Jérôme. Transport Minister Paul Hellyer made that announcement yesterday following months of intense secrecy.

What kind of secrecy?

The project is worth hundreds of millions of dollars. Newsradio has learned that both Mr. Hellyer and Regional Expansion Minister, Mr. Marchand, last Saturday and Sunday went to an Ottawa TV studio to pre-tape the announcement. The audio and video tapes were to be released to radio and TV stations as the announcement was being made in the Commons. It has further been learned that the ministers did not take the precaution of swearing the studio technicians to secrecy even though they did have two R.C.M.P. officers guarding the studio. Nor were the technicians sworn not to make attempts to use the valuable information for personal gain. Oddly enough, however, most other members of the studio staff were given the impression oaths of secrecy had been signed.

Even if the oaths of secrecy had been taken, which was not the case according to my information, this would not remedy the situation and the question of privilege would still exist.

So I say that we have a prima facie case. In view of the fact that this leak is as serious as a budget leak, I say that the time has now come for the Prime Minister and his government to measure up to their responsibility and to take parliament into their confidence. This is one breach of privilege. Another breach of privilege is against every member of the House of Commons, that is the leak. We speak for the people and we speak for the