

minister, but I should like to ask a question of the Prime Minister or the acting minister. Now that the Minister of State and the government are or ought to be aware of the nature of the charges contained in this sworn testimony, as well as in letters sent to CMHC over the last few years, and the condemnatory report of Mr. Yorke of the legal department of CMHC, will these documents be produced to this House and to the country? Will the government launch a proper and full inquiry, instead of the so-called internal investigation which, after five months, have not been heard of and appears to be the figment of some well-endowed imagination?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I think I got the gist of the question and I believe the answer will have to be the same as I gave last week, that if the inquiry conducted by the minister and his department reveals that a public inquiry is called for we will institute such an inquiry.

STUDENT CO-OPERATIVE PROJECTS—REQUEST FOR
DELAY IN APPROVAL OF FUNDS FOR TREFANN COURT
UNTIL JUDICIAL INQUIRY HELD

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a question of the Prime Minister. I am sorry, but I do not make anything of it, that the minister is not here. In light of the fact that CMHC is about to make a loan for a project called Trefann Court in Toronto and that the head of the group applying for the mortgage is Mr. John Jordan, former executive director of the Co-operative College Residence Incorporated, I should like to ask the Prime Minister, in light of the fact that there have been allegations of scandal and terrible mismanagement, whether he can assure the House, until the minister returns, that there will be no approval of this mortgage involving a large sum of money of which CMHC is putting up 95 per cent.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased the hon. member said he would make nothing of the non-attendance of the minister. He probably knows that the minister is attending a tri-level meeting in his own province, the province of Alberta. So far as the question is concerned, I will make sure that it comes to the attention of the minister.

Mr. Woolliams: I want to welcome, first of all, the Prime Minister back from that conference which was a flop in Vancouver.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps the hon. member could ask the question now.

Mr. Woolliams: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a supplementary to my first question. I would ask the Prime Minister to take the first question asked very seriously. In light of the fact that Mr. Yorke, legal counsel for CMHC, in making a report to the minister mentioned the incompetence of Mr. Jordan, will he assure the House now that no approval of that loan will be made to that particular group or person until the whole matter is investigated by a judicial inquiry.

Oral Questions

Mr. Trudeau: I thank the member for welcoming me back. I am afraid I cannot say the same thing about him. He does not seem to know there is a tri-level conference in his province. He should go there so we could welcome him back. As to the representation, I will refer it to the minister.

* * *

TRADE

ALLEGED SHIPMENT OF ARMS FROM CANADA TO
IRELAND—REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION IN VIEW OF
NEED FOR EXPORT PERMIT

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, might I direct a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce arising out of a report that the Dublin police have seized a Manchester Lines freighter *Vigour* and found eight cases of arms marked as machine parts consigned from Montreal to northern Ireland. In view of the fact that the freighter *Vigour* made no stops between Montreal and Dublin, it can be presumed that these arms were loaded in Montreal. I want to ask the minister if his department has made any inquiry into the matter and, if not, is the minister prepared to investigate and to identify the consignor to ascertain whether or not an export permit was issued for the shipment or transshipment of these arms and if not that appropriate action will be taken?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I will make an inquiry and report back.

Mr. Douglas: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that a peaceful nation like Canada does not want to be used for the shipment or trans-shipment of arms to terrorist groups in any part of the world, may I ask the minister what steps his department is taking to supervise and to inspect arms shipments passing through or originating in this country?

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member knows, there is the Export and Import Permits Act, and such shipments are subject to export permits.

Mr. Douglas: Mr. Speaker, I am aware that those shipping arms need an export permit, but I am asking the minister how it was possible for these arms to be shipped to Northern Ireland either with or without an export permit.

Mr. Speaker: I suggest this is an argument rather than a question.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

VIET NAM—ALLEGED MISTREATMENT OF TWO CANADIAN
OFFICERS ATTACHED TO CONTROL COMMISSION BY VIET
CONG

Mr. Allan B. McKinnon (Victoria): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In light of the reports that the two Canadians held by Viet