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SUBJECT/ Green Paper - SDI  
SUJET

PROGRAM(S)/  
EMISSION(S) SSEA Scrum - House of Commons - May 16

## SSEA BOOK

MINA/  
White  
Brady  
Kergin  
Chambers  
McNee  
Mason  
MINT/  
Fountain  
Kneale  
Burbridge  
Boisjoli  
MINE  
USS  
DMF  
DMT  
DMX  
DMXN  
CPD  
SCI/  
Mikkeltborg  
Leblanc  
SCS/  
Strouts  
Storsater  
Bouchard  
FPR/ (2)

SSEA: I indicated that I would have no objection if the Committee decided that it wanted to give priority to SDI and other questions. Indeed, there'd be some advantage to that because the Government has to make a decision on the invitation some time in the next 3 or 4 months, and I would welcome the opportunity to hear from Canadians before that happens. As things now stand, the Liberals and the NDP won't let Canadians speak. Now, they may change their position and I hope they do.

Q: (Inaudible).

SSEA: No, I can't.

Q: Legally, you can't do that?

SSEA: Legally, we need to have the agreement of the House to establish a special Joint Committee and, obviously, the next tactic of the Opposition parties who don't want the public to be heard would be to filibuster the Order of Reference. So, if they don't take part in it, there will not be an opportunity through a Parliamentary Committee, for Canadians to be heard on foreign policy. That would be tragic.

Q: But you're saying it would be the Committee's decision what the strategy ...

SSEA: It would be the Committee's decision, but they certainly know my interest in hearing from Canadians on these questions. I think it's very important that Canadians be heard and I hope the two other parties will stop opposing public participation.

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