

Oral Questions

Income Tax Act. Mr. Speaker, that implies that all parties concerned work in a climate of mutual confidence and trust.

● (1140)

[English]

PLACEMENT OF MINISTER'S CONFIDENCE

Mr. W. C. Scott (Victoria-Haliburton): Mr. Speaker, my question is also directed to the Minister of National Revenue. If I were the Deputy Minister of National Revenue I would be humiliated by the answer which has been given by the Minister. Will the Minister answer yes or no on whether he enjoys the full confidence of his Deputy Minister of Finance?

[Translation]

Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member is a bit confused by his own improvisation!

I would simply suggest to him that, instead of rising when prompted to do so by his colleagues, he ought to prepare sensible questions rather than making stupid remarks like his colleagues when clear answers have already been given.

[English]

REPORTED STATEMENTS MADE BY MEMBER FOR KITCHENER

Mr. Walter McLean (Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of National Revenue a question in another context. Yesterday as I left Kitchener the Minister's colleague, the Member for Kitchener, indicated on radio station CKKW that the problems in the Department lay at the feet of the Deputy Minister. The Minister's Deputy has been attacked by his colleague. Does the Minister have full confidence in his Deputy?

[Translation]

Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, either the Hon. Member is deaf, or he does not want to understand anything, or perhaps he does not listen to the answers!

I answered his questions three or four times.

[English]

Mr. McLean: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary.

Mr. Speaker: The same question has been asked four times. The Hon. Member for New Westminster-Coquitlam.

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NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS

CRUISE MISSILE TESTING—STATISTICAL CRASH PROJECTIONS

Ms. Pauline Jewett (New Westminster-Coquitlam): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of National Defence, the Minister of the Environment, the Prime Minister, and the

Secretary of State for External Affairs, I would like to direct my question to the Acting Prime Minister.

This week a claim was made by the Department of National Defence that the chances of environmental hazards such as crashes and forest fires resulting from the Cruise missile tests were one in a million. This is totally misleading the public. The U.S. consultant who conducted the Cruise hazard study used by the U.S. military has said the figures given by our Department of National Defence were totally unrealistic and, in fact, absolutely in error.

Will the Acting Minister inform the House, on behalf of the Government and the Department of National Defence, that it will immediately issue another bulletin with the correct assessment of the very grave hazards which are going to come upon us with the testing of the Cruise missile?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of State (External Relations)): Mr. Speaker, I am afraid my hon. friend will have to make her own decision. As an intellectual, which she is to a great degree, she has had to make decisions of this kind in her life. On almost every subject she is confronted with extremist and middle of the road opinions, and she has to make her own decision.

If the Minister of Defence were here I am sure he would say he has full confidence in his officials, particularly in his DM, when they present him with views of this kind. I cannot help her very much. It is a question of her making up her mind which of those opinions is the most valid. I would tend to believe the Canadian opinion in this matter.

Mr. Speaker: A short supplementary. We have refused supplementaries lately.

NUMBER OF CRASHES

Ms. Pauline Jewett (New Westminster-Coquitlam): Mr. Speaker, the Cruise crashed were 44 out of 109 flights, not one in a million. I would like to direct my supplementary question to the Prime Minister, who is in the House, Mr. Speaker, but not in his place.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Edmonton-Strathcona.

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ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

THE ROGER BILODEAU CASE

Mr. David Kilgour (Edmonton-Strathcona): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Justice. Precisely why has the Government of Canada taken the position it has in its factum in the case of Her Majesty versus Roger Bilodeau?

Hon. Mark MacGuigan (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member's question is so broad that I am not sure what he has in mind. If he could be more specific in his supplementary question I might be able to provide a reply.