

steps to upgrade the standards of the security screening staff. We are also taking steps to improve the comprehensive training program. Yes, I am even considering the suggestion to which the Hon. Member refers.

WAGES OF BAGGAGE INSPECTORS

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina West): Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that commissionaires issuing parking tickets at the parking lots at Dorval and Mirabel Airports are paid over \$6 an hour and the security screeners are paid around \$4 an hour, will the Minister give greater priority to those who screen passengers, baggage, and hand luggage, over those who issue parking tickets?

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, as I indicated in an earlier answer, the Solicitor General and I are developing a comprehensive enhanced security program for all airports which will cover the longer term. In the immediate term there are some measures which we are implementing. We are improving the system all the time.

I want to assure the Hon. Member that I will be calling in representatives of the airlines next week, as well as representatives of Burns Security Services and other security agencies, to see what steps might be implemented to address this very serious problem.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

UNITED STATES—REPORT OF ACTION CONTEMPLATED AGAINST LIBYA

Hon. Donald J. Johnston (Saint-Henri—Westmount): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. Recent information, as recent as two hours ago, suggests that the United States may be contemplating a military strike against Libya. While we are all desperately concerned about terrorism, will the Government express its concerns to the U.S. administration about the dangers inherent in escalating any military action in the Mediterranean at this time?

● (1500)

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I think that the American Government is well aware of the dangers indeed in escalating any action in that area or elsewhere. The American Government and others are growing progressively concerned about the irresponsible and criminal misconduct of some agents of countries which appear to be giving succour to terrorism and terrorist activity, which is reprehensible and completely unacceptable to Canada and every other civilized country.

Petitions

POINTS OF ORDER

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Mr. Ian Waddell (Vancouver—Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, in answer to my question during Question Period, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Miss Carney) appeared to be inadvertently cut off by the Speaker when she replied that at no time did Premier Devine ask us for a floor price for oil. I wanted to make sure that that was not lost from the *Hansard* record.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

UNPARLIAMENTARY LANGUAGE—WITHDRAWAL

Mr. Jack Shields (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, during Question Period the Hon. Member for Cape Breton—The Sydneys (Mr. MacLellan) was questioning the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Miss Carney) and I inadvertently blurted out that that was a lie. I want to assure the House that I have too much respect for that Hon. Member ever to accuse him of lying, and I would like to withdraw that.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

PETITIONS

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

Mr. Doug Lewis (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 106(8), I have the honour to table in both official languages the government responses to petitions Nos. 331-12 and 331-13.

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BORROWING AUTHORITY

PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present the report of the legislative committee on Bill C-99, an Act to provide borrowing authority, in both official languages.

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PETITIONS

DROUGHT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Mr. Albert Cooper (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I have the pleasure to table a petition on behalf of a number of my