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During the second quarter, Canada's Gross Domestic Product expanded at a real or after inflation annual rate of 6 per cent. This performance, as an article in today's *Toronto Star* states, has left economists groping for superlatives to describe the health of the economy.

While the 6 per cent annual rate will not be sustained, Michael Manford, Chief Economist of Merrill Lynch Canada Inc., said that Canada will probably turn in the strongest economic performance of the world's seven big industrial countries.

One question being debated is: "Does the Government deserve some credit for this performance?" My answer is an unqualified yes. Beginning after September, 1984, the Government took several key steps to set the climate for strong economic recovery.

Fiscal restraint was established through three responsible Budgets. The deficit is being cut. The National Energy Program was dismantled. The Foreign Investment Review Agency's mandate was dramatically changed to welcome foreign investment. The Government favours divestment of Crown corporations which do not serve a public policy objective. That is why de Havilland was sold. Incidentally, de Havilland has never had a brighter economic outlook.

All these sound measures and others have generated a renewed confidence in Canada not just for foreigners but also for Canadians. Interest rates are down sharply and this is spurring economic activity, particularly new housing starts and small business investment. Last, one of the greatest benefits of all has been a significant lowering of the unemployment rate through the creation of over 850,000 jobs.

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HUMAN RIGHTS**U.S.S.R.—INVITATION TO NOBEL PRIZE WINNER TO VISIT CANADA**

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, St. Boniface Hospital is the second largest teaching hospital in Winnipeg. Some years ago, people interested in medical research established the St. Boniface Hospital Research Foundation. Its purpose was to raise money for medical researchers to do their work over and above what they got from the Medical Research Council.

To a large extent this project has been a great success because the foundation has been able to bring in for its functions world known people like Prince Phillip, Mrs. Sadat and Dr. Christiaan Barnard. This year it proposes to invite Mr. Sakharov, the famous Soviet physicist and Nobel Prize winner. Unfortunately, the Soviet Government has not yet permitted Mr. Sakharov to leave for Canada.

I would urge the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Clark) to make representations on behalf of all Canadians by telling the Soviet Government that we would look with a great deal of interest and support at its permitting Mr. Sakharov to come to Canada.

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CANADA POST CORPORATION**STAMP COMMEMORATING 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF AIR CANADA**

Mr. Joe Reid (St. Catharines): Mr. Speaker, Canada Post today commemorates the 50th anniversary of Air Canada with the issuance of a stamp. The inaugural flight of Trans-Canada Airlines from Vancouver to Seattle was made on September 1, 1937, carrying mail as well as passengers. Airmail routes were established between Winnipeg and Vancouver, and Montreal was added in 1938.

TCA changed its name to Air Canada in 1964 and has grown to be the world's ninth largest commercial airline, flying to points in North America, Europe and beyond to Bombay and Singapore. Canada Post Corporation is its largest cargo customer.

The stamp was designed by Derrick Carter of Vancouver and Debbie Adams of Toronto. Some of Air Canada's many destinations are highlighted on a stylized version of the globe. In the foreground is an Air Canada Boeing 767 banking as if to land. The Canadian Bank Note company will print 15 million stamps in five colour lithography for all to enjoy.

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NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS**U.S.—U.S.S.R. NEGOTIATIONS—MONITORING OF NUCLEAR TESTS**

Mr. Dave Nickerson (Western Arctic): Mr. Speaker, one of the serious impediments in the way of an agreement between the United States of America and the U.S.S.R. restricting nuclear proliferation has been the question of verification. Today's report attributed to General Nikolai Chervov that the Kremlin is seriously considering a United States proposal for monitoring nuclear tests, and may even allow the U.S. to explode its own device on the Soviet test range to calibrate its monitoring equipment in exchange for reciprocal privileges, is welcome news.

It is interesting to note the part played by Canada in these developments. Not only have our Energy, Mines and Resources seismic stations been active for many years in recording nuclear blasts, but we have co-operated with the Government of the United States in testing its remote monitoring equipment under Arctic conditions, similar to those which