

Oral Questions

Quebec comes to ask favours from the Canadian government and refuses to show the flag of his country, the Canadian flag. When the Prime Minister of Canada was about to invite international leaders to Quebec City, the mayor was not prepared to show that he himself was a Canadian.

Hon. Lucien Bouchard (Leader of the Opposition, BQ): Mr. Speaker, no one in Quebec is asking favours from anyone, and especially not the mayor of Quebec City in his capacity as mayor. We pay taxes here. We pay taxes. This is our money you are spending, and we want our fair share. And we are certainly not seen as begging favours from the federal government.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Loubier: It costs us \$30 billion in taxes.

Mr. Bouchard: Mr. Speaker, are we to understand that this petty and mean decision on the part of the Prime Minister to disqualify Quebec from hosting the G-7 summit was inspired by the same desire to get even that permeated the government's actions on MIL Davie, manpower training and cuts in transfer payments for social programs, to punish Quebecers for supporting the Parti Québécois and the Bloc Québécois?

Right Hon. Jean Chrétien (Prime Minister, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, I see the Leader of the Opposition is easily upset, but despite the lack of courtesy shown by the mayor of Quebec, we support the interests of Quebec City, which is borne out by the fact that throughout the world at this very moment, Canadian ambassadors are trying to get the 2002 winter games for Quebec City, in spite of the mayor of Quebec City.

Hon. Lucien Bouchard (Leader of the Opposition, BQ): Mr. Speaker, if the Prime Minister thinks all sovereignist mayors in Quebec are discourteous, since there are quite a few of them, that means there are quite a few discourteous mayors in Quebec. There are quite a few people in Quebec who are discourteous, in that case, and they will show it when all sovereignists join in making the referendum this fall a victory for sovereignty.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Loubier: We will win that one.

Mr. Bouchard: Are we to conclude from what the Prime Minister said in Valcartier that his only strategy now is to scare Quebecers before the referendum that will be held shortly?

Right Hon. Jean Chrétien (Prime Minister, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition wants a referendum as soon as possible. That is not what he told Parizeau last week. If the Leader of the Opposition wants to win the referendum, the question should be very simple and very clear. Ask Quebecers:

Do you want to stay in Canada? And we will all vote yes, including the Péquistes.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

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CANADIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE

Mr. Michel Bellehumeur (Berthier—Montcalm, BQ): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Solicitor General.

Last September, Michel Robert, spokesperson for the Security Intelligence Review Committee told the Sub-committee on National Security that he did not know what had become of Grant Bristow. The *Toronto Star* has uncovered him in Edmonton, complete with a new identity, a new house, two cars and an income of \$3,000 a month, compliments of the Government of Canada and Canadian taxpayers.

Before providing Mr. Bristow with a new identity and sending him into hiding once again, would the Solicitor General acknowledge that Mr. Bristow must appear before the Sub-committee on National Security in order to fully clarify his role in the racist group Heritage Front and his infiltration into the entourage of the leader of the Reform Party.

[English]

Hon. Herb Gray (Leader of the Government in the House of Commons and Solicitor General of Canada, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, it has never been confirmed that Grant Bristow is a CSIS source or was a CSIS source. As a result I do not think there is anything further I can add in reply to the hon. member's question.

[Translation]

Mr. Michel Bellehumeur (Berthier—Montcalm, BQ): Mr. Speaker, how can the Solicitor General abdicate his responsibilities with regard to Grant Bristow's role as a CSIS source, when a report by the review committee considers that Mr. Bristow exceeded the mandate of a CSIS source.

Why is the Solicitor General making such an effort to hide Grant Bristow?

[English]

Hon. Herb Gray (Leader of the Government in the House of Commons and Solicitor General of Canada, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, I think my hon. friend is mistaken. The report of the SIRC, the Security Intelligence Review Committee, did not confirm that Grant Bristow was a source of CSIS. It did however confirm that CSIS did a good job, a proper job and a necessary job investigating the Heritage Front.