

*Oral Questions***AIRPORTS****PRINCE ALBERT—INQUIRY AS TO APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES FOR IMPROVEMENTS**

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the President of the Treasury Board. About ten days ago, I think, I asked him a question concerning the undertaking apparently entered into by the Minister of Transport, and widely advertised in the press in Prince Albert during the by-election, which led to the general belief that between \$3 million and \$6 million would be spent on the Prince Albert airport. Has anything of this kind been brought to his attention and is it now before the Treasury Board?

● (1140)

Hon. Robert K. Andras (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, there have been discussions. A definitive answer to that would be best presented by the Minister of Transport when he is available.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Transport is not the President of the Treasury Board. I am asking the President of the Treasury Board whether there has been any formal application. I would suggest this to him, and I hope he will take it in the best of good humour, that unless this expenditure takes place, the Minister of Transport will not be able during the next election to jet himself into Prince Albert.

Mr. Andras: From my knowledge of the proposals, I would think that the Minister of Transport is totally responsible in his recommendations.

Mr. Basford: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I will see the minister at 12 o'clock.

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NATIONAL DEFENCE**REQUEST FOR RETENTION OF AIRBORNE REGIMENT IN EDMONTON**

Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. I know the Prime Minister believes in participatory democracy. In view of the almost unanimous support to retain in the city of Edmonton the bilingual commando unit, will the Prime Minister now, in the interest of promoting the spirit of national unity in western Canada, reverse the decision to remove this unit to central Canada?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I do not think the hon. member is seriously suggesting that I reverse a decision made by the Minister of National Defence on the recommendation of defence staff and of senior military advisers. I see that the Chief of Defence staff has now left the

[Mr. Trudeau.]

gallery. I am sure if he were here he would think the question rather preposterous.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Paproski: As long as this country is not at war and the morale of the troupes in peacetime is très important—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Paproski: —which should be the prime concern, will the Prime Minister reconsider this very expensive and fool-hardy move?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, this has been dealt with many times by the Minister of National Defence, but certainly I will agree with the assertion that this country is not at war. Mr. Speaker, you see in your gallery we have Romeo and Juliet, two Canadians from Hamilton.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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MANPOWER**CANADA WORKS PROGRAM—REQUEST THAT HIRING AUTHORITY BE GIVEN TO MAYORS AS WELL AS MANPOWER OFFICES**

Mr. Cecil Smith (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. I first want to assure him and the Prime Minister that no one in the Churchill constituency is living beyond their means. The unemployment rate in the Churchill constituency is in excess of 20 per cent. In order to qualify for the make-work programs, the unemployed must be hired through CMC offices. In many cases these centres are located hundreds of miles from communities. Will the minister give authority to the chiefs and councils, mayors and councils and community leaders who are better qualified to provide the placement of unemployed in their respective communities? Will he give them that authority to hire at the local level?

Hon. Bud Cullen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I think the CMC is more or less the co-ordinating unit. I will look into the situation to see whether we can do an even better job than we have done in the past.

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ENERGY**PRICING AND TAXATION POLICIES FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE COMPANIES OPERATING IN THE TAR SANDS**

Mr. James Gillies (Don Valley): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. It arises out of the report on the oil sands and heavy oils. I think it is absolutely disgraceful that it was not tabled in the House of Commons so that we could ask appropriate questions. Is it government policy to allow the same pricing for oil and the