

MR. ROGERS, EXAM. BY MR. MERRICK

1 you'd ask it.

2 Q. Yes. Why did he change his mind, Mr. Rogers?

3 A. And it's this: Eventually, the perception of strong  
4 unrelenting support from the three Ministers was  
5 becoming, I am sure in his mind, frayed at the edges.  
6 And suddenly, I think, he was perceiving that they had a  
7 way to, more in sorrow than anything else, come back to  
8 him and say, "We tried, God knows we tried, but we can't  
9 get more than this, obviously. So if this isn't  
10 satisfactory -- It would have been a great thing." But  
11 they could walk away with their dignity and their  
12 political reputations unimpaired, that they had really  
13 tried. And I think what he realized was this was the  
14 end. He either accepted this or there was no deal. And  
15 that he did not have support from those quarters that he  
16 believed that he had had up until that point.

17 Q. What do you base that on?

18 A. Oh, I think it's just understanding human behaviour,  
19 experience with this and a lot of these kinds of things  
20 in a lot of different circumstances.

21 Q. But you were also a very sensitive, senior  
22 bureaucrat who would be probably able to detect when  
23 ministerial or political support is beginning to soften.  
24 Did you have anything specific in that regard?

25 A. No, I think it is what you suggest. It's just a --