

MR. CAMERON - OPENING ADDRESS

1 the lie, deliberate, contrived and dishonest, but the
2 myth which is persistent, persuasive, and unrealistic.
3 We subject all facts to a prefabricated set of
4 interpretations. We enjoy the comfort of opinion without
5 discomfort of thought."

6 Well, I expect they will be some today who will feel
7 some discomfort before I finish. Now everyone is
8 interested in the political aspects of this story, and it
9 certainly is part of your mandate to look at the politics
10 of this whole issue. So let's get to that issue.

11 This is a story of a terrible tragedy, and the
12 reality of that tragedy gave credibility to those who
13 want to play the rotten game of politics in Nova Scotia.
14 It's about the shameful conduct of a few politicians who
15 played the usual game of politics by pitting Cape Breton
16 against Mainland Nova Scotia. But after the explosion
17 they did something very unusual, they milked every ounce
18 of political benefit they could from the death of 26
19 human beings.

20 I will provide you with an internal Liberal Party
21 memo that will leave you no doubt about this. And all
22 this material that I refer to, I presented to Mr. Merrick
23 last July. And, Mr. Merrick, I don't know if you have
24 this memo I gave you, but I'm sure it's in your file
25 somewhere. But I want to quote just one or two lines