

MR. CAMERON, EXAM. BY MR. MERRICK

1 push this issue and try to make it sound like it's  
2 something else. I had Cabinet approval when I wrote this  
3 letter. And if it took two years or five years, because  
4 of the drag on the Federal Government to negotiate the  
5 final things and then come back with the final package  
6 then, fine. But from the time we said we would do it,  
7 until we got all the negotiations done, there was a long,  
8 long period of time that took place. But please don't  
9 try to misrepresent that.

10 When we told them we would give them a \$12-million  
11 loan, there's was months of negotiations after that.

12 Are you telling me that there's something dishonest  
13 of telling people this is what we will give you, but  
14 we're going to have to negotiate the details and then  
15 months -- months later, when you get the details done,  
16 you pass a final order doing that? That's how government  
17 works, and it's unfair for you to continue to attack me  
18 and make it look like I have done something that wasn't  
19 appropriate as a Cabinet Minister. I would not write a  
20 letter to any company without getting approval from  
21 Cabinet. Believe me.

22 Q. I acknowledge, Mr. Cameron, this is a point I am  
23 exploring. Because on the documents we have, it raises  
24 questions whether you did in fact have Cabinet approval  
25 to write as you did in September of '88. My question to