

MR. CAMERON, EXAM. BY MR. ROBERTS

1 Q. -- in the evidence of the inspectors.

2 A. Well, that's your interpretation.

3 Q. Well, that's their words. I'm going to put another  
4 proposition to you, sir. Listening to you here the last  
5 couple of days and reviewing the evidence from the time  
6 of the explosion, it's impossible for me to escape the  
7 conclusion that by the time this mine began operating,  
8 the Westray Mine had become such a personal issue to you  
9 that you were unable -- a person was unable to criticize  
10 Westray without criticizing Don Cameron, in your mind.

11 A. You're absolutely wrong.

12 Q. Okay. And I also put it to you that whether it was  
13 because of the partisan dispute you were having with Mr.  
14 Boudreau or the struggles you were having with the  
15 Federal bureaucrats, or your perceived injustices in the  
16 media, that you were not able to deal objectively with  
17 the problems of this mine.

18 A. You're absolutely wrong.

19 Q. Okay. Are you familiar, sir, with the principle of  
20 Ministerial responsibility?

21 A. Yes, I think I might be quite acquainted with that;  
22 I spent 20 years in elected office.

23 Q. Right. And that principle is, as I understand it,  
24 that a Minister takes responsibility for the actions of  
25 his officials within his authority, whether or not he or