

## Trade War

*Written for a Canadian lumber industry political fundraiser featuring B.C.'s Minister of Forests, Mike DeJong, and the Minister of Management Services, a.k.a. "mama".*

These days the notion of "free trade" is clichéd  
It's been played-out by American cheap-skates  
Who seem to take the way of "uncivil disobedience"  
'Cause they only obey the rules when it's convenient  
In this trade dispute, greed is the main ingredient  
I'd say it was a joke, but I'm no comedian  
Millions of cubic meters of timber have been exported  
And so far 3.6 billion has been extorted  
How much longer can our businesses afford it?  
But our number one defense against these sinister forces  
Is in the house: may I present the Minister of Forests  
In this fight to enforce American accounts payable  
Mike DeJong is Beowulf  
Every day he goes on the CBC  
To denounce the USA as a greedy thief  
As American World Police bully the planet  
Mike is like a mouse fighting a wooly mammoth  
And I'm not saying this to be melodramatic  
'Cause it doesn't take much to make an elephant panic  
So Mike isn't afraid to say it's a trade war  
'Cause it's time the Americans got what they paid for  
And I bet we could get them talkin' if our bid  
Was to call them out with the Washington power grid  
And if the cowards did hide the money, and legislated  
It to their industry, and ours was devastated  
We wouldn't get jaded. Never mind that  
We'll just get it back with the Proceeds of Crime Act  
They can try to hide the cash in a mineshaft  
But they can't hide the fact that they broke a signed pact  
So we'll see which side the dispute'll be costing  
With the whole international community watching  
Now the only way the Americans can avoid major embarrassment  
Is to change their ways and reign these trade tariffs in  
They can't hold a candle to Canadian merits in  
This conflict, 'cause it takes oil to make paraffin  
They just can't afford to make enemies thoughtlessly  
With their foreign-dependent energy policy  
But don't get me wrong, Americans are fine people  
They just cause more problems than the Mountain Pine Beetle  
So remind me to confiscate any tapes of this rap  
Just to make sure I'm safe from the Patriot Act

Speakin' of which, here's a statement of fact  
No one has done as much for Canada's nervousness  
About American "intelligence gathering" searches as  
The Honorable Minister of Management Services  
But I think she, and I, and most foreign delegates  
Would agree: what America needs is more intelligence  
And if it seems like we're being tough with the rules  
Of NAFTA, it's because we have to suffer the fools  
It's no wonder the news today showed the USA uncovering  
Trucks with wood products used for drug smuggling  
Some people may have thought it was surprising  
But in B.C. that's what you call "subsidizing"  
But this industry doesn't need subsidies  
All we need is justice for lumber companies  
And I for one believe in Mike DeJong, when he gets hold  
Of these thick-skulled thieves with their greedy mitts full  
Of our money, he's not the type to let go  
He's like the Liberal equivalent of a pit-bull  
The situation is critical! Calling Mike DeJong!  
Beat the righteous drum! The time to fight has come!  
You'll see what I mean before this night is done...

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