

Inquiries of the Ministry

today issued a press release in connection with the Pearson film, but after having it read to me by a C.B.C. official I find it is no answer to the question I raised with the minister as to whether the C.B.C. would be prepared to arrange a showing of this controversial film for members of parliament. Has the minister his reply yet?

Hon. Maurice Lamontagne (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, in answer to the request made to me by the hon. member, I am informed by the C.B.C. that tentative plans have been announced by the national press club for the showing of the film in question. If there is such a showing it will be carried out solely on the responsibility of InterVideo Productions. The C.B.C. does not plan any private showings of this film which has been rejected for the C.B.C. television network. For the additional information of the hon. member, the corporation has announced today that it is releasing two prints of the film to InterVideo Productions.

Mr. Fisher: The conditions under which the films have been released are that they be shown only to film societies. Would the minister press very strongly that the C.B.C. give permission to Mr. Ballentine to show the films they are going to release on a wider basis so that all of us, including members of parliament, can get an easy chance to view them?

Mr. Lamontagne: Mr. Speaker, I am certainly not going to press the C.B.C. on anything with regard to programming.

Mr. Fisher: My question had nothing to do with programming. I am talking about giving a demonstration, on parliament hill for parliamentarians, of the film in the railway committee room, using 16 mm. film and a projector.

ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE

OTTAWA—U.S. PARTICIPATION IN AIR FORCE DAY

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Lucien Cardin (Associate Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday last the hon. member for Yukon who is, I understand, a former member of the R.C.A.F., asked whether any arrangements would be made for participation of the R.C.A.F. in the air force day program—

Mr. Speaker: Would the minister restate his answer? I was not able to hear the beginning of it.

[Mr. Fisher.]

Mr. Cardin: Yes, Mr. Speaker. On Tuesday last the hon. member for Yukon who is, I understand, a former member of the R.C.A.F., asked whether any arrangements would be made for participation of the R.C.A.F. in the air force day program taking place at R.C.A.F. station Rockcliffe this Saturday. He alleged that the majority of personnel and equipment participating were from the United States air force rather than from the Royal Canadian Air Force.

I can inform the hon. member that, as is not unusual, he has his facts wrong. Actually over 90 per cent of those participating and over 90 per cent of the equipment being shown is R.C.A.F. It is true that both the United States air force and R.A.F. aircraft, in limited numbers, will take part in the fly past saluting the 40th anniversary of the R.C.A.F., thus showing on the part of our allies a more sincere appreciation than that expressed by the wording of the hon. member's question of the contribution the R.C.A.F. has made, and continues to make, to the defensive alliance of the west. As a joint partner in NORAD the United States air force is also contributing to the static display at Rockcliffe.

I understand that as a member of the special committee on defence the hon. member has received an invitation to attend the air show, and I hope he avails himself of the opportunity in order to see for himself just how wrong he was.

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, I can tell the minister I fully intend to attend the air show, but I would ask him to be fair when making comments on my question. If he will read it carefully he will see that no allegations were made by me whatsoever, that I said my information was that the United States air force was participating openly in the air show, and I simply wanted the minister to confirm or deny whether this was so. I made no such allegation and I suggest it is improper for the minister to impute motives to the question I asked.

Mr. Cardin: Mr. Speaker, I think the hon. member should be satisfied now. He told me what his information was and I have told him what my information is today.

Mr. Nielsen: I am not—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I do not want to be laying down the law all afternoon, but it does seem this is a good time to point out to both hon. members that according to the