

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. Speaker:** Does the hon. member for Abitibi wish to ask a supplementary?

**Mr. Laprise:** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

I wish to ask the Minister of Justice whether he has any knowledge of evidence heard by the Senate sub-committee on internal security, as well as of reports and laws concerning security in the United States which were the subject of a study under the direction of Senator James O. Eastland? Does he intend to get himself acquainted with these in order to find out what does take place in Canada regarding infiltration by the Communist Party?

**Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice):** I shall read this report, Mr. Speaker.

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[English]

**NATIONAL DEFENCE**

SUITABILITY OF CF-5 PLANES FOR CANADA'S ROLE IN NATO—NUMBER IN USE, IN STORAGE AND TO BE DELIVERED

**Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Defence. The minister advised the House on October 5 that he was immediately sending some CF-5 planes to Europe for testing to see whether they would fit in with our NATO role and thus be available for use in that role. Has the minister found out as a result of his latest trip whether these planes are suitable for this role, and can he advise the House how many of them are going to be used?

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, the aircraft sent at that time were tried in the central European area and went through a number of tests. They are now at a holding base in Europe. We also plan to put them through similar tests in what is called the northern tier of the alliance, probably some time in the new year when arrangements can be made with the local authorities, and very likely when we will be having a battalion battle group exercise in the northern tier. So evaluation is taking place both with regard to their use on the central European front and in the northern tier, but this evaluation has not yet been completed.

**Mr. Hees:** Can the minister advise the House how many of the 115 original CF-5 planes were placed in storage as a result of the fact that the original order was not cancelled, even though our United Nations role was cancelled some two years ago? How many of these aircraft are still in storage in Canada?

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** As of November 15, Mr. Speaker, there were 57 in various types of operational use, there were 22 in temporary storage, and there are 36 yet to be delivered in Canada.

**AIR REFUELLING CAPABILITY OF CF-5 PLANES**

**Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East):** I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. How many of these CF-5 aircraft have been converted to accept an air refuelling capability?

[Mr. Laprise.]

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, my recollection is that none of them at this moment have been. At the present time two of the C-137's, the 707's, are in the hands of the manufacturers for conversion to air refuelling capacity.

**Mr. Forrestall:** Could the minister indicate whether or not it is the policy of the department to convert these aircraft in light of the conversion program being carried out on the 707's?

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** Yes, that would be the intention. I speak subject to correction, but I do not think that the CF-5 aircraft require too extensive a modification for this purpose.

**METHOD OF PURCHASE OF CF-5 AIRCRAFT**

**Mr. R. E. McKinley (Huron):** Will the Minister of National Defence say whether tenders were called for the purchase of these CF-5 aircraft from Canadair?

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, as has been the case in respect of the vast majority of aircraft purchased by the Department of National Defence over a number of years the purchase contract was negotiated. This has been the procedure with aircraft contracts so they can be manufactured in Canada rather than purchased abroad.

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**NATIONAL CAPITAL**

EFFECT ON OTTAWA OF CNR REDUCTIONS OF EMPLOYEES, FACILITIES AND OTTAWA-MONTREAL SERVICE

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Prime Minister a question, knowing that he is as interested as all his predecessors were in ensuring that the city of Ottawa is a capital city worthy of Canada. Will he look into the reduction of airline employees by some 33 per cent in Ottawa and the removal of certain of its facilities here? At the same time, will he give his attention to the announced intention of the CNR to downgrade the four Ottawa-Montreal runs and to discontinue the dining and parlour car services between Ottawa and Montreal effective February 1? Transportation is very material and necessary, and what is being done will result in making Ottawa a "tank town" as far as transportation facilities are concerned.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I would be pleased to refer this matter to the Minister of Transport and discuss with him any suggestions he may have.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Will the Prime Minister take a stand on this matter in order to assure that the city of Ottawa shall not be sacrificed in respect of transportation facilities? That is what I asked but apparently he does not agree to do so.