

Inquiries of the Ministry

minister. A few days ago I asked the Acting Minister whether the presence of the United States Corps of Engineers in northern Ontario had anything to do with a survey of water resources, and the Acting Minister replied that he would make further inquiries. Has the minister any further report to make on the matter?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I have been instructed that there are no members of the United States Army Corps of Engineers taking part in any federal water resources survey in northern Ontario. The only survey being made is a hydrological and hydraulic engineering study, and this is being undertaken in accordance with the announcement of the Prime Minister of Canada and the Premier of Ontario in August, 1965. This study is referable to the principal rivers in northern Ontario which drain into James Bay and Hudson Bay. This assessment of water resources is to provide information that is essential to their effective future utilization. The work is co-ordinated with that being undertaken by Ontario to avoid duplication. I would emphasize that these studies and investigations bear no specific relation to any water diversion project or proposal.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

[Translation]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**SECURITY MEASURES TO PREVENT ESCAPES**

Mr. Roland Godin (Porineuf): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Justice.

Is he able to tell us, now that the notorious Robert Gignac has been captured by the Quebec police, whether security measures will be taken in order to prevent this great friend of Lucien Rivard from escaping once again?

[English]

INDIAN AFFAIRS**POSSESSION OF GALLEY PROOFS OF BOOK BY HAROLD CARDINAL**

Mr. F. J. Bigg (Pembina): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, but in his absence I will address it to the minister who accepts responsibility for answering to the House on his behalf.

Would the minister inform the House by what means the Indian Affairs Branch came into possession of galley proofs of the book "The Unjust Society" by the Indian author Harold Cardinal without Mr. Cardinal's knowledge or consent? If an answer is not forthcoming and the question is to be taken as notice, would the minister also say whether the Indian Affairs Branch considers it part of its duty as trustee for our native people to censor the publications of Indian authors?

Mr. Russell C. Honey (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, a similar question was addressed to the Solicitor General a few days ago. If he wishes to reply to the hon. member may I refer the matter to him.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**MIDDLE EAST—ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF GENEVA CONVENTION IN ISRAELI-OCCUPIED TERRITORY**

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, arising out of an answer by the Secretary of State for External Affairs to a delegation a couple of days ago in respect of allegations made that under Israeli occupation there are violations of the Geneva Convention and that civilians living in the area are being subjected to harassment, and because of the feeling of the Jewish people across Canada that an answer should be given in this regard, will the minister say whether during his recent sojourn in the Middle East he looked into this question and whether he concluded that there was no basis for the allegation? If so, why did he state to this delegation that he would look into the situation to find out whether there was any basis for the criticism put before him?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I am very glad the right hon. member for Prince Albert asked this question because as he will see I did not authorize any such statement. A press conference was given by some of the delegates who were in my office. I was not present. I read with some surprise what was said. When they called on me I told them we have conducted exchanges with the Israeli authorities through the embassy here and otherwise and that the much broader question of an inquiry into the situation of civilians as a result of the Arab-Israeli conflict has of course been examined in the United Nations, but full investigation of the situation has not