

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, May 1, 1970

The House met at 11 a.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRESENCE IN SPEAKER'S GALLERY OF SPEAKERS AND DEPUTY SPEAKERS OF PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURES

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Hon. members will permit me to bring to their attention the presence in the Speaker's gallery of a group of very distinguished parliamentarians and their wives who are to be in Ottawa today and tomorrow to attend the annual meeting of the Canadian Area Council of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. It is with much pleasure that I introduce to hon. members a group of parliamentarians noted in their respective Houses for their wisdom, impartiality, tolerance, judiciousness, patience and forbearance.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: By this description hon. members will immediately recognize the Speakers and Deputy Speakers of our provincial houses.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[Translation]

On behalf of all my colleagues of the House of Commons, I welcome them most heartily to Ottawa.

[English]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

Third and fourth reports of Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development—Mr. Watson.

Fourth report of Standing Committee on National Resources and Public Works—Mr. Hopkins.

[Editor's Note: For text of above reports see today's Votes and Proceedings.]

GRAIN

TABLING OF WHEAT INVENTORY REDUCTION REGULATIONS

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 41(2) may I lay on the table of the House copies in both official languages of the wheat inventory reduction regulations referred to yesterday in the question period by the Minister without Portfolio (Mr. Lang).

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CAMBODIA—STATEMENT ON INVASION BY UNITED STATES AND SOUTH VIET NAM ARMED FORCES

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I thought that the House might expect me to make a short comment on the situation in Cambodia. I am sure we all listened to President Nixon's speech with deep anxiety. There can be no doubt that the decisions he announced were hard and momentous at what is bound to be a difficult time for our sorely tried neighbour and a dangerous period for the world.

During the period before the International Control Commission was asked to leave Cambodia we were aware, as a member of the commission, of abuses of Cambodian territory by North Viet Nam and we deplored the inability of the International Control Commission to do anything about it, despite our best efforts over a period of years.

Mr. Diefenbaker: What date was that?

Mr. Sharp: Ever since the conflict began in South Viet Nam one of our objectives, and I am speaking now of Canada—

Mr. Diefenbaker: Would the minister allow one question so that the record might be kept straight? On what date were we asked to get out of Cambodia?

• (11:10 a.m.)

Mr. Sharp: I will come to that later.

Mr. Diefenbaker: You do not have the information?