

Oral Questions

he can assure the House at this time that the government will not move to restrict the flow of agricultural chemicals and fertilizers from entering Canada from the United States. If I may paraphrase my question so the minister knows exactly what I mean I should like to ask him if he will assure the House, and consequently the farmers of Canada, that there will be a free movement of fertilizer and agricultural chemicals between the two countries.

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): There is free movement of fertilizers between the two countries, but certainly not free movement of agricultural chemicals between the two countries. Coming to Canada they are duty free, but a 12 per cent tariff is imposed on them going into the United States. What the hon. member is referring to is the fact that the farmers themselves can import chemicals to Canada without going through the process of purchasing the same chemicals in the United States which would possibly cost them more in Canada. So they bring them in free of duty. We have said, before we made our decision on that, that we would meet with the farm organizations concerned which have made representations to us. It depends on whether we will be able to come to full agreement, but I would say that many farmers in Canada and many farmers in the hon. member's district are asking me to put tariffs on all kinds of products coming into the country. If they want duty free chemicals coming in, they better make sure other products with which they are competing in Canada are not free of duty.

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PENITENTIARIES**SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR THOSE RELEASED ON
TEMPORARY ABSENCE PASSES FOR CHRISTMAS**

Mr. Alex Patterson (Fraser Valley East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Solicitor General or, in his absence, to the acting minister. In view of the concern that has been expressed by the residents of Fraser Valley regarding the report that over 50 inmates of Mountain Prison are being released on temporary passes over the Christmas season, among whom is a considerable number of those convicted of rape and some of murder, I wonder if the minister could give some assurance to the people of Fraser Valley as to the special precautions that are being taken to ensure maximum protection for people in that area?

Hon. Francis Fox (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, the temporary absence program to which the hon. member is referring is the same type of program that was in effect last year and which had an extremely high rate of success, with almost the total number of the people released under the program returning at the end of a temporary absence. The same precautions that were in force in previous years have been taken this year.

[Mr. Murta.]

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE**REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE NO FURTHER JAPANESE TERRORIST
ACTIVITIES IN TORONTO**

Mr. Otto Jelinek (High Park-Humber Valley): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Solicitor General. Following the deportation of the alleged Japanese terrorist, Mr. Toshio Ohmura, and the plans by the Japanese consulate in Toronto to take all necessary protective steps within their jurisdiction based on reports of further Japanese terrorist movements in that city, can the minister assure the House that so far as the RCMP is concerned there exist no further Japanese terrorist activities in Toronto following RCMP surveillance which is continuing to take place in that city, and if the minister cannot assure the House of this, can he, together with the Secretary of State for External Affairs, take all necessary steps to have these accused terrorists deported accordingly?

Hon. Francis Fox (Solicitor General): As the hon. member knows, the RCMP moved extremely quickly and efficiently in having the case of the known Japanese Red Army suspected terrorist dealt with in co-operation with the Department of Manpower and Immigration. The RCMP security services are monitoring the situation very closely, and all necessary precautions have been taken in connection with the Japanese consulate in Toronto.

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ANTI-INFLATION BOARD**INCREASED PAYROLL—GOVERNMENT VIEW OF EXAMPLE OF
RESTRAINT**

Mr. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance and it arises from the figures that the minister released yesterday in reply to a question on the order paper about the payroll of the Anti-Inflation Board. Has the minister reviewed the facts as revealed in his figures that while the number of employees with the board declined by 50 between July and September of this year, the AIB's payroll almost doubled in those two months, rising from \$700,000 to \$1,300,000, and is the minister satisfied that AIB is showing a worthwhile example of restraint to the private sector?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Finance): I will be glad to discuss this with the chairman, with the hon. member's question being the opening subject.

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● (1510)

NATIONAL DEFENCE**AIRBORNE WARNING AND CONTROL SYSTEM—INQUIRY AS TO
CANADIAN COMMITMENT**

Mr. Allan B. McKinnon (Victoria): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of National Defence about his conver-