QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. Jim Hawkes (Parliamentary Secretary to Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, Question No. 218 will be answered today.

[Text]

DND—GRANTS TO ORGANIZATIONS IN METROPOLITAN TORONTO

Question No. 218-Mr. Redway:

Since September 4, 1984, did the Department of National Defence make grants and/or loans to persons or corporations, non-governmental organizations and governments within Metropolitan Toronto and, if so, in cach case, in what amount and for what purpose?

Hon. Perrin Beatty (Minister of National Defence):

1. Yes.

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	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
Royal Canadian Naval Association	9,125	9,490	9,490	9,490
Naval Officers Association	24,700	25,690	25,690	25,690
Military Studies-York University	40,000	40,500	90,000	92,700
Royal Canadian Military Institute	6,151	6,107	6,011	6,092
Ontario Rifle Association	5,645	8,315	7,405	7,180

- 2. The above are annual grants which are included in the DND Main Estimates and are paid for the following purposes:
- (a) Royal Canadian Naval Association and the Naval Officers' Association—to promote and maintain interest in military affairs generally and particularly in the welfare and development of the naval forces.
- (b) Military studies—to develop a domestic competence and national interest in military and strategic issues of current and future relevance to Canada's national security.
- (c) Royal Canadian Military Institute—to provide the means of maintaining contact with the civilian population and retired service officers to encourage the promotion of military science and disseminate to the public accurate and current information on military affairs.
- (d) Ontario Rifle Association—to promote the skill of small arms usage as a contribution to the defence of Canada.

[English]

Mr. Hawkes: I ask that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, the Parliamentary Secretary is aware that I am going to ask him questions before we give unanimous consent.

Can he explain how many questions are left on the Order Paper which he wants to be left over until sometime in January when the House reconvenes? Can he tell us the date of the earliest question that the Government has yet to answer, with

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all these public servants at its disposal and all these people in the Minister's office? It is very important that we get those questions answered, and I want to know how many questions he wants left on the Order Paper and for how long they will remain on the Order Paper.

Mr. Hawkes: Mr. Speaker, we have been answering questions at such a rapid rate that I am not up-to-date on how many remain on the Order Paper. However, it is helpful that the Opposition knows how busy Ministers are when the House is sitting, in addition to all their other responsibilities, and a break at this time, having come back for an emergency session, would be very helpful in making sure that early in the New Year, when the House reconvenes, we will have an opportunity to accelerate the rather excellent record of this Government in answering questions, a record much better than that of the previous Governments.

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Member for Ottawa—Vanier (Mr. Gauthier) on the same point of order.

Mr. Gauthier: On the same point of order, Mr. Speaker, I would remind the Parliamentary Secretary that some of the questions are indicated by a small 2, and these require an answer within 45 days. It was pointed out this week or last week that now and again the Government hesitates or takes time before answering these questions. I remind him that there are at least one, two, three . . . questions numbered 116, 133, 135, 196, 205, 208, plus mine, question No. 209, about which a request has been made to have answers within 45 days, but there has been no response. I can understand that the Parliamentary Secretary is a very busy man, but I hope he will find time during the Christmas recess to come back here for a few days and get some help to be able to answer these questions when the House resumes in January.

Mr. Hawkes: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I will attempt to answer the question as soon as the House comes back after the holidays.

[English]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The question enumerated by the Parliamentary Secretary has been answered. Shall the remaining questions stand?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

TRADE

CANADA-U.S. FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

The House resumed from Thursday, December 17, consideration of the motion of Miss Carney that this House endorse, as being in the national interest, the Canada-United States Free Trade Agreement, the legal text of which was tabled in the