

Inquiries of the Ministry

army, the Black Watch, and has he made any further decision in this regard?

Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, obviously I received some representations concerning that decision which was, I might say, one of the most painful decisions I ever took. But the rationale that was applied with regard to three regiments of the active forces was that we were going back to the traditional position of three infantry regiments, and we chose the ones that had the longest active service—the Royal Canadian Regiment, the Royal 22nd and the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. We have given assurances to the disbanded regiments that they will not disappear, and I am sure that in the case of the Black Watch in particular there is no problem on that score. They have a very famous reserve unit and I am sure their glorious name will remain in the annals of the Canadian Armed Forces.

Mr. MacEwan: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. I ask the minister again whether he would not reconsider retaining the kilt, as was promised me in the House of Commons when the unification bill was put before the House by the former Minister of National Defence?

Mr. Cadieux (Labelle): Mr. Speaker, putting the Black Watch in reserve does not eliminate the kilt—far from it. We should not jump to conclusions. The same goes for the pipes. I think I should inform my hon. friend that I am very partial to the pipes and the kilt, so I can reassure him they will not disappear.

WHEAT**POLICY RESPECTING OVER-QUOTA DELIVERIES**

Mr. George Muir (Lisgar): I have a question for the Minister without Portfolio from Saskatoon-Humboldt, but in his absence perhaps it can be answered by the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Now that the minister has announced in a press release a reversal in policy with regard to over-quota deliveries of wheat in exchange for flour for the producers' own use, is the government now prepared to advise the Wheat Board to restore over-quota deliveries in exchange for certified and registered seed?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I know about the first matter but not enough about the second. I will bring it to the attention of the minister in charge of the Wheat Board who will want to report, I am sure, at the first occasion.

[Mr. MacEwan.]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**CHANGES IN CANADIAN DIPLOMATIC ESTABLISHMENTS—METHOD OF ANNOUNCEMENT**

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. I admit it is based on the same press report to which reference was made by the hon. member for Hillsborough, but perhaps I might be a little more lucky in getting it accepted. In view of the statement which the Prime Minister made to me on Wednesday of this week that the Secretary of State for External Affairs will be making a statement in the House as soon as he comes back from Victoria regarding changes in the arrangements with respect to our diplomatic posts, can the Prime Minister tell us why these sources keep giving out little reports, and whether or not we will soon get a complete statement on the whole picture?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I would prefer to ask the hon. member why he keeps on believing in canards and leaks. When the official announcement is made it will be made by the Secretary of State for External Affairs. I will repeat what I said on Wednesday; he will make a statement when he comes back from Victoria where he is attending the Columbo Plan Conference. As the hon. member knows, he is the minister in charge of the Department of External Affairs.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. Instead of making that kind of remark, will the Prime Minister find out how it is that the Department of External Affairs manages to get these reports out under the heading of "sources said"?

FISHERIES**CHUM SALMON—BANNING OF FISHING IN JOHNSTONE AND QUEEN CHARLOTTE STRAITS**

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Fisheries. In view of the fact that, by prohibiting chum salmon fishing in Johnstone and Queen Charlotte Straits, the minister is responsible for desertion of the crews, possible bankruptcies, and unemployment without any assistance, can he now assure the house that alternative work or assistance is being provided for these men and women?