

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

intention that it should be discussed during the present session?

**Mr. Olson:** For the information of hon. members it is the intention to discuss this motion during the current session, and I believe that at a meeting of house leaders today the time at which it will be brought before the house for debate will be considered.

**Mr. Speaker:** The motion stands, by unanimous consent.

## SPORTS

## FIGURE SKATING—WINNING OF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP BY PETRA BURKA

**Hon. Judy V. LaMarsh (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, I know the house will be pleased to learn that Miss Petra Burka has become world figure skating champion.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Miss LaMarsh:** This 17 year old girl from Toronto won the title early this morning, our time, when she gave an outstanding free skating performance after already having taken the lead in the difficult compulsory figures part of the competition. I have already sent a telegram to Miss Burka congratulating her and telling her "All Canada is proud of you".

I am pleased to add that Miss Burka and other members of the Canadian team were able to go to the world championships in Colorado Springs with the assistance of a \$5,000 grant from the federal government's fitness and amateur sport program.

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

## VIET NAM—REQUEST FOR OPPORTUNITY FOR DEBATE

On the orders of the day:

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition):** I would ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs whether in all the circumstances, particularly the multiplication of incidents in Viet Nam in the last ten days or so, which causes fear in the hearts of free men everywhere, he would be prepared early next week to follow the course which is generally followed in the British House of Commons of having a day set aside so this house may be able to secure some information on the subject and be in a position to clarify some of the statements which have been made in connection with this serious and perilous situation.

[Mr. Winch.]

We should like to be able to discuss this matter and ascertain the views of the government. The Prime Minister will be going to New York today, I am informed, and will meet with the secretary general tomorrow. Following that, I think this house and Canadians generally have a right to more information than has yet been given either to this chamber or to the country at large.

**Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** I will say to the right hon. gentleman that I shall be glad to consult with my colleagues as to his request. I am hopeful that some day next week, depending on the action of the co-chairmen of the Geneva accord group, it will be possible to table the majority and minority reports of the international control supervisory commission upon which Canada serves. This will be of some assistance by way of making additional information available. It will not, of course, provide a solution to the problem which, quite correctly, the right hon. gentleman refers to as one in which we have an understandable interest and about which we have great concern. I will give consideration to his request.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Would the minister say when he expects to table those two reports?

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** I am not quite certain. The report is in the hands of the two co-chairmen, the Soviet union and the United Kingdom. We have not as yet had any reaction from the Soviet union. If we do not get their permission we shall have to consider whether we will act on the decision of one co-chairman, or whether we will act on our own.

## NATO—REQUEST FOR POLICY STATEMENT BY MINISTER

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the fact that yesterday in the city of Cleveland the minister made a rather extensive statement in regard to Canadian policy as it relates to NATO and its future, and particularly as he referred to the fact that in his opinion it was necessary to place national interests secondary to the objectives of that organization, does the minister now have some statement for the house in regard to such policy?

**Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, the text of what I said last night in Cleveland will