

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

inquire and make sure the Board knows about the situation referred to by the hon. member.

[English]

## NATIONAL DEFENCE

## UTILIZATION OF CF-5 AIRCRAFT

**Hon. D. S. Harkness (Calgary Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Defence. Has a decision now been arrived at as to the use which the 115 CF-5 aircraft ordered by the department will be put to in view of the fact that a number of these aircraft have now been delivered to the department?

**Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, we are now using whatever aircraft have been delivered—perhaps 35 or 36. We have formed a conversion unit at Cold Lake and we are also forming a squadron at Bagotville. At the present time all the airplanes which have been delivered are being used.

**Mr. Harkness:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Does this mean that these aircraft are essentially being used for training purposes only and that no decision has been made as to what their actual use will be?

**Mr. Cadieux (Labelle):** Mr. Speaker, there are two types of aircraft. Some of them are trainers with twin seats; others are single-seaters. The double-seaters, of course, are used for the primary purpose for which they were built, training. The others form part of an active squadron. Fortunately we do not have to use it for the purpose for which it is meant.

## AVAILABILITY OF NAVAL LIMITS TO ASSIST ASTRONAUTS IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

**Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Defence. Has Canada any naval units at sea in the North Atlantic or available for duty at sea? Also, have such units been offered to the United States government in case an emergency forces a landing of the astronauts in the North Atlantic area on Friday?

**Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence):** Not to my knowledge, Mr. Speaker, but I will inquire.

**Mr. Nesbitt:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. If units are available, would the

[Mr. Pepin.]

minister offer them to the United States government in the event that they should be needed?

**Mr. Cadieux (Labelle):** Mr. Speaker, I believe that naturally we should respond to such a request.

**An hon. Member:** Put the *Bonaventure* to sea.

## AIR TRANSPORT

## ROUTES GRANTED TO TRANSAIR—REQUEST FOR DELAY IN IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISION—PUBLIC HEARINGS

**Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** Mr. Speaker, on March 18 I directed a question to the Minister of Transport which he took as notice, as reported at page 5179 of *Hansard*. My question had to do with the fact that the Canadian Transport Commission had granted to TransAir Limited the right to travel from Winnipeg to Toronto via Thunder Bay and Sault Ste. Marie. The question I asked the minister was whether, since no public hearings had been held and in view of the personalities involved, the government would bring pressure to bear on the chairman of the Canadian Transport Commission to call public hearings and, if not, whether the government would be prepared to institute an investigation to see whether patronage and favouritism had taken place in the granting of these air routes?

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, I have now received three appeals in connection with this particular granting which have been filed in appropriate order, and I am in the process of considering them now. The answers to the hon. member's questions, those that are relevant to the decision, will be included when that decision comes forward.

**Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Since the Minister of Transport of Ontario, Mr. Irwin Haskett, has said publicly that the government of Ontario is asking the government of Canada to reverse the decision of the Canadian Transport Commission pending public hearings, does the government intend to accede to this reasonable request?

**Mr. Jamieson:** Mr. Speaker, one of the appeals to which I referred is from the government of Ontario and it is to the Minister of Transport. I am in the process of considering it now.