3. Did the government subsequently decide not to build the headquarters of the Rideau Canal system in Smiths Falls, Ontario and, if so (a) on what date was this decision made (b) by whom was this decision made (c) was such a decision made public and on what date?

4. Is the government now reconsidering the matter of building the headquarters of the Rideau Canal system in Smiths Falls because of its declared decentralization policy?

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): 1. The following parcels of land adjacent to the Rideau Canal in Smiths Falls were purchased since 1957 by the federal government:

Location	Date purchased	Purchased from	Purchase price
Part of Lot 131 as shown on Registered Plan 2857 and Part of Reserve Lot between Bay and Fly Streets.	June 1967	DOT Holding Company	$33,000
Part of Lot 2, Concession 4, Township of South Elmsley.	August 1967	Ustel Motor Sales Limited	$1
Lot 130 and Water Lot in front of Lot 130 as shown on Registered Plan 2857	June 1968	DOT Holding Company	$35,000
Part of Lot 1 Concession 4, Township of North Elmsley.	August 1969	Town of Smiths Falls	$1
Part of Fly Street now Gile Street and water lot opposite Gile Street in Town of Smiths Falls.	March 1971	Town of Smiths Falls	$1

2. The government announced in April 1965 that it proposed to construct a headquarters for the Rideau Canal System at Smiths Falls.

3. The government still proposes to construct the headquarters.

4. No.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PERSONNEL, KINGSTON, ONTARIO

Question No. 2,607—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. Has there been a reduction in staff of the Unemployment Insurance Commission Office at Kingston, Ontario and, if so (a) what are the names of those employees laid off (b) on what dates were they laid off?

2. What was the reason for such action being taken?

3. Has there been a reduction in the number of persons employed by the Unemployment Insurance Commission at Kingston, Ontario assigned to handle complaints made to members of parliament by their constituents and, if so (a) what was the former number of persons involved in such work (b) to what level has this been reduced?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. Yes, six casual employees have been laid off. (a) M. F. Walters, G. P. McCallum, R. McNeil, D. Douglas, J. R. Edwards, J. R. Stewart. (b) August 10, 1973.

2. Work shortage.

3. Yes, (a) Three (one regular employee and two casuals); (b) two (one casual).

NATIONAL DEFENCE—NUMBER OF RETIRED PERSONNEL WITH 25 YEARS SERVICE

Question No. 2,608—**Mr. Forrestall:**

1. In the past three fiscal years, how many men or officers, by rank, have left the Canadian Armed Forces with an excess of 25 years service?

2. In the next three fiscal years, by year, how many men or officers of the Canadian Armed Forces with an excess of 25 years service are anticipated by the department to be retiring?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): 1. The number of men and officers who have attained in excess of 25 years service with the Canadian Forces who have retired during the past three years is as follows: General, 2; Lieutenant-General, 6; Major-General, 10; Brigadier-General, 27; Colonel, 69; Lieutenant-Colonel, 223; Major, 399; Captain, 362; Lieutenant, 4; Cadet, 2; Sub-Total, 1,104. Chief Warrant Officer, 317; Master Warrant Officer, 499; Warrant Officer, 665; Sergeant, 613; Corporal, 216; Private, 28; Sub-Total, 2,338; Total, 3,442.

2. Retirements of service personnel who will have achieved 25 years or more of service during the next three fiscal years is currently projected as follows:

	FY73/74	FY74/75	FY75/76
Lieutenant-General	2	2	4
Major-General	2	2	8
Brigadier-General	6	14	6
Colonel	14	23	24
Lieutenant-Colonel	40	81	69
Major	66	122	108
Captain	71	96	125
	201	340	344
Chief Warrant Officer	57	73	101
Master Warrant Officer	102	112	127
Warrant Officer	119	144	122
Sergeant	116	152	155
Corporal	59	64	68
Private	1	2	—
	454	547	573
Totals	655	887	917

POST OFFICE—ROYAL MAIL/POSTE ROYALE DESIGNATION

Question No. 2,618—**Mr. Forrestall:**

Is the government giving consideration to placing the words "Royal Mail/Poste royale" on the new series of mail vehicles that are being placed into service in Canada and, if not, for what reason?