Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the hon. member the Minister of National Defence whether would be prepared to debate it at ten o'clock and give notice.

NATIONAL DEFENCE

EQUALIZATION OF PAY FOR PREVAILING RATES EMPLOYEES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. Nasserden (Rosthern): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the President of the Privy Council. Several weeks ago he promised to look into the question of the prevailing rate employees at Dana. Has he a report for the house now?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (President of the Privy Council): No, Mr. Speaker, the information has not come back yet. The actual examination of the situation is undertaken by Department of Labour officials and then is dealt with by treasury board. A final report is not yet ready, but when it is ready I shall be very glad to give the information to the hon. gentleman.

COLD LAKE, ALTA.—CONTRACT FOR AIRPORT HEATING SYSTEM

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, yesterday the hon. member for Edmonton-Strathcona, referring to the answer I had given him last Friday, asked if the conversion of the heating units in 850 married quarters connected with R.C.A.F. station, Cold Lake, would be carried out subsequent to tender call. As I indicated in my reply of last Friday, under the arrangements made by the Department of National Defence the Cold Lake Pipeline Company Limited is responsible both for the distribution system and the conversion of furnaces at Cold Lake. This company is required to guarantee and service the conversion units and, in consequence, it is its responsibility to arrange such work to be done by competent subcontractors.

In reply to the hon. member's specific question, I am informed that tenders were called by the Cold Lake Pipeline Company for the conversion of the furnaces in the married quarters units and that the lowest tender submitted has been accepted by that company.

PROVISION OF NUCLEAR MISSILES FOR EUROPEAN BRIGADE

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask [Mr. Winkler.]

newspaper reports are accurate, to the effect that nuclear missiles have been provided for the Honest John battery with the Canadian brigade in Europe; and if so, as of what date?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, I understand that the battery is now operational. It is not the practice to give dates on which units become operational.

Mr. Churchill: A supplementary question. Mr. Speaker. May I ask whether these nuclear missiles are being held in storage, or have they been placed in position on their rocket dischargers?

Mr. Hellyer: Under ordinary circumstances, Mr. Speaker, I think they would be held in storage.

NEGOTIATIONS TO WITHDRAW FROM NUCLEAR DEFENCE ROLE

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the minister of external affairs, in view of Canada's more active participation in the nuclear club, whether he would give a report to the house on the progress of his negotiations to extricate Canada from her nuclear role, as promised by the Prime Minister?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, my hon. friend persists in asking this question week after week. There is only one thing to do, and that is refer him to the original reply.

IMMIGRATION

TORONTO-STATEMENT ON STATUS OF PERSONS CONCERNED WITH NEWSPAPER STRIKE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Hubert Badanai (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Citizenship and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, yesterday the hon. member for Melville asked whether any further information was available regarding the presence in Toronto of two United States strike directors. The hon. member was referring, of course, to Mr. Ameln and Mr. Hogan, about whom the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration made a previous statement in this house. During the orders of the day on Friday the minister advised the house that according to information received from the immigration office in Toronto these two