

Inquiries of the Ministry

Prime Minister whether his attention has been drawn to an article by Gerald Clark, associate editor of the *Montreal Star* and to a C.B.C. statement by Tim Ralfe which placed before the Canadian people a situation in regard to Canada's membership on the international control commission which, if untrue, in the interests of our relations with the United States and with the free world demands the strongest condemnation and, if true, requires full and complete investigation of the operations of this commission.

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, my attention, of course, has been drawn to these articles. I have already issued a statement emphatically denying their accuracy. The Secretary of State for External Affairs has also issued a statement denying the accuracy of these reports and I would be glad, Mr. Speaker, but perhaps not at this moment, to table both these statements to show there is no foundation for these allegations.

Mr. Diefenbaker: In the interests of securing the widest possible publicity for the denials that have been made would the Prime Minister have both these gentlemen, who were in Viet Nam and who have always had a reputation for responsibility, brought before a committee of parliament—the external affairs committee would be an example—so they may tell their story there and be subject to cross-examination?

Mr. Pearson: I would be very glad indeed, Mr. Speaker, to give consideration to this. I think it is an interesting and important suggestion by my right hon. friend that when the committee on external affairs is meeting it might be a very good thing to have these gentlemen appear before the committee and substantiate their statements.

Mr. Speaker: Has the hon. member for Greenwood a supplementary question?

Mr. Brewin: Mr. Speaker, the right hon. Leader of the Opposition asked the supplementary I intended to ask.

[Translation]

VISIT TO QUEBEC CITY BY BELGIAN PRINCE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Réal Caouette (Villeneuve): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Further to statements and rumours of all kinds, is the minister in a position to advise [Mr. Diefenbaker.]

the house whether Prince Albert de Liège, accompanied by his wife, will visit the city of Quebec?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I believe so. The government of the province of Quebec has invited the prince to visit the city of Quebec and we are all very happy that he has accepted to travel to the old capital.

Mr. Caouette: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Has the minister received from the premier of Quebec, Mr. Johnson, some details as to the recognition by Quebec of the status of Mr. Paul Tremblay, Canadian ambassador to Belgium?

Mr. Speaker: Order. I do not think the question is in order.

*[English]***LABOUR RELATIONS**

PRINCE RUPERT, B.C.—REQUEST FOR INQUIRY INTO UNION DISPUTE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Fisheries regarding what is almost a disastrous situation in the fishing industry at Prince Rupert, British Columbia. Is the minister or the government in a position to establish an inquiry into the problems in the fishing industry of Prince Rupert, which are seriously interfering with the fishery and preventing the fishermen from engaging in the halibut fishery which opened a few days ago?

Hon. H.-J. Robichaud (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, I fully share with the hon. member his concern about this serious problem involving a dispute between two unions on the British Columbia coast and affecting the halibut fishery. I have received a number of telegrams regarding this situation. I also contacted the minister of labour of that province in this connection. Although I have been advised that it is only the provincial government which has legal jurisdiction in the matter, I am prepared to consider any useful assistance which my department might render in an effort to settle the dispute if such assistance is requested by the provincial minister of labour.

Mr. Howard: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Because of the seriousness of the matter, and knowing of the minister's undoubted interest in it, as well as the fact that I understand the representations to the