

Inquiries of the Ministry

to be approved as a new drug certain pre-clinical testing has to be conducted, and the composition of the drug made known to the officers of the department. Dr. Mirkovich has been made aware of these regulations and has been given a full explanation of the requirements to be met before distributing a new preparation for clinical trials. The purpose and intent of these new drug regulations are to ensure that clinical investigators have a background of knowledge about the new drug before administering it to patients. In this way the clinician is able to make a sound judgment as to the validity of the use of the drug in humans.

The regulations provide assurance to both the clinical investigator and the patient that the necessary tests have been carried out prior to the administration of the drug to the patient.

I should say in summary, this being an important question and we all being concerned about a solution to the disease of cancer, that the department has attempted to be helpful but is not in a position to carry out the clinical testing which is requested by Dr. Mirkovich. I am hopeful that these important clinical tests can be undertaken under the auspices of agencies which have facilities to make such tests.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**MAINLAND CHINA—POSSIBILITY OF RECOGNITION**

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, would the Prime Minister be in a position to report on any discussions he has had with Ambassador Arthur Goldberg; and has there been any agreement arrived at with the United States respecting the recognition of communist China, in accordance with the interpretation placed by objective reporters on the address delivered in the United States last week by the Prime Minister?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, discussions have been going on with Ambassador Goldberg under the auspices, on our side, of the Secretary of State for External Affairs. I expect to participate in those discussions later this afternoon, so perhaps the right hon. gentleman would wait until tomorrow for any statement in regard thereto.

[Mr. MacEachen.]

VIET NAM—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON PRESENT SITUATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Barry Mather (New Westminster): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Having in mind today's news from Viet Nam, I wonder whether the minister could give the house his opinion as to the confused situation there today.

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I have just received notice of my hon. friend's intention to ask this question. I am sure he will appreciate that it would not be possible to relate the efforts of this country and the efforts of the members of the international control commission to the events reported in South Viet Nam this morning. I may say, however, that the Canadian proposal continues to be one that is foremost in our minds. I took advantage of the presence of United States Ambassador Goldberg to discuss certain aspects of the matter this morning. This proposal, together with other Canadian efforts, will be related to the situation in Viet Nam in an effort to contribute to the possibility of a negotiated settlement in that situation.

RHODESIA—REQUEST FOR REPORT ON CURRENT TALKS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Jack McIntosh (Swift Current-Maple Creek): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Can the minister inform the house whether he has had any recent word from the British government about the negotiations that are going on between certain officials from Rhodesia and officials of the British government with regard to settling the dispute between those two countries?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the Canadian government has been informed of the exploratory talks taking place in London. These are not in the nature of negotiations but constitute an effort to try to determine whether there is a basis for negotiation between the government of Great Britain and the illegal regime headed by Mr. Smith.

We have had a report on the latest meeting of the sanctions committee. The position taken by the British government, which has been supported by the Canadian government, for the use of moderation in this situation at