

[Text]

CRIME STATISTICS

Question No. 136—**Mr. Patterson:**

1. Since 1975, by year, how many murders took place in Canada?
2. By year, how many murders involved children under the age of 16 years?
3. Since 1975, by year, how many rapes/sexual assaults on children took place?
4. In the case of child murders, by year, how many involved sexual assault on the victim?
5. (a) Since 1975, by year, in the case of child murders, how many individuals were charged with (i) first degree murder (ii) second degree murder (iii) manslaughter and, in each case, what was the conviction relating to the charge (b) how many individuals (i) charged (ii) convicted had previous criminal records relating to sexual assaults on children?
6. Since 1975, by year, how many crimes of (a) murder (b) rape/sexual assault were committed by individuals released from penitentiary under (i) mandatory supervision (ii) weekend/day passes under the temporary release program (iii) parole?
7. Since 1975, for those persons charged with rape/sexual assault, how many (a) were released on bail (b) committed crimes relating to sexual assault while on bail?

Return tabled.

[English]

Mr. Evans: Mr. Speaker, I ask that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

Mr. Speaker: Shall the remaining questions stand?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

CANADIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE ACT

MEASURE TO ESTABLISH

Hon. Bob Kaplan (Solicitor General of Canada) moved that Bill C-9, an Act to establish the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, to enact an Act respecting enforcement in relation to certain security and related offences and to amend certain Acts in consequence thereof or in relation thereto, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

He said: Mr. Speaker, the proposed legislation before us today represents a major turning point for Canada's security intelligence system. We are asking Parliament to provide, for the first time in Canada's history, a legal framework more comprehensive, and more detailed, than that of any other security system in the world. Every other country leaves a large part of their security system wholly within the prerogative of government. With Bill C-9 we have tried to reduce that element to an absolute minimum. This Government believes that such an approach is not only desirable, but essential if we are to maintain the necessary balance between effective na-

Security Intelligence Service

tional security and the civil liberties that are fundamental to our society.

[Translation]

Bill C-9 is the result of many years of research, discussion and debate on the way this balance should be achieved. Since the Second World War, there has been, both in Canada and in the rest of the world, an incredible increase in security intelligence activities, generally without legislative authorization or control. In Canada, the present RCMP Security Service has no legislative mandate and exercises powers that are neither defined by Parliament nor regulated by judicial control. As the issue of security becomes increasingly complex, the absence of a specific legal framework raises concerns about our individual rights and freedoms.

● (1230)

[English]

These concerns have been addressed by two commissions of inquiry in the last 15 years—the Mackenzie Commission in 1969 and the McDonald Commission in 1981. Both Commissions concluded that to address effectively threats to Canada's security while protecting Canadian civil liberties, our security service should be split out of the RCMP and become more civilian in nature with a legislated mandate and a new system of control and review of security operations.

Responding to these recommendations, the Government developed a detailed set of proposals to reorganize the RCMP security service as a civilian agency, operating under a new framework of mandate, powers and controls and, for the first time, independent review. These proposals were presented last year as Bill C-157 and submitted for examination to a special committee of the Senate. After hearing the representations of interested groups and individuals from across Canada, the Senators reaffirmed the central recommendations of the earlier commissions and endorsed the basic framework proposed in Bill C-157. At the same time they suggested many amendments which will help to achieve the essential balance between national security and individual liberty.

The Senate committee emphasized the urgent need for this legislation. They said that our present security intelligence arrangements are not acceptable and new legislation "should be enacted in the near future". I recognize this sense of urgency. I have tabled the amended legislation as early as possible to facilitate a full parliamentary debate on Bill C-9.

At this stage it is important to focus clearly on the fundamental principles of the Bill. No doubt a Bill dealing so directly with questions of national security in a free society raises many complex and disturbing issues. In an area where a calm and reasoned approach is vital, it is easy to give way to sensationalism or empty rhetoric and lose sight of what is really at stake in Bill C-9. What is not at question today is the need for an efficient security intelligence service. This need has been fully demonstrated by both the Mackenzie and the McDonald Commissions. There have been many occasions in recent years when our national security would have been