

Questions

FOREIGN EXCHANGE—U.S. DOLLAR CONTENT IN EXPORTS AS MUTUAL AID, ETC.

Mr. DIEFENBAKER:

1. What is the value of the U.S. dollar content in the products exported from Canada by way of mutual aid, gifts or loans to the U.K. and European countries, up to December 31, 1947?
2. What amount of U.S. dollars has been recovered from the above exports up to December 31, 1947?
3. Does the government propose to continue exports to countries on a mutual aid, gift or loan basis, of products with U.S. dollar content, and for how long, and without receiving payment covering U.S. dollar content?

Mr. MAYHEW:

1. It is impossible at this time to determine the United States dollar content in the products exported from Canada by way of mutual aid, gifts, or loans to the U.K. and European countries during the last few years.
2. It is not entirely clear what is meant by the query as to the amount of U.S. dollars recovered from these exports. It is true, however, that very substantial amounts of gold and U.S. dollars have been received from the countries referred to during the period mentioned.

In the case of the United Kingdom, total receipts of gold and U.S. dollars for the years 1942 to 1947 were as follows:

Year	Equivalent in Canadian dollars (millions)
1942	23
1943	143
1944	55
1945	33
1946	150
1947	505

All countries to which we have granted credits under the Export Credits Insurance Act are, with one exception, required to pay for a portion of their purchases in Canada by the use of gold or U.S. dollars. Particulars are included in the various annual reports made to parliament under Part II of the act.

Receipts of U.S. dollars and convertible exchange from the European countries to which we have extended such export credits are estimated as follows:

Year	Equivalent in Canadian dollars (millions)
1945	70.4
1946	44.2
1947	(Preliminary) 86.5

3. No assistance by way of mutual aid, gift, or loan can be given to any country except under authority of parliament. There is now no legislation authorizing the granting of aid

[Mr. Chevrier.]

to any country in respect of relief other than the appropriation of \$20 million for post-UNRRA relief, and the appropriations for the Canadian contribution to certain United Nations organizations.

Of the loan to Britain, there remains available to be drawn only \$246.5 million and, as has already been announced, present arrangements provide for using this credit in the amount of \$45 million during 1948, this amount to be drawn during the first quarter.

In respect of the export credits to the other European countries, there remains unused \$103 million. In the case of several borrowing countries which have substantial amounts of credit still available, arrangements were made during the latter part of 1947 that at least as much of their purchases in Canada would be paid for in gold or U.S. dollars as would be purchased out of the credits. Some commodities or classes of commodities will only be sold for export for U.S. dollars or their equivalent.

ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY

Mr. FULTON:

1. What is (a) the authorized strength of the Royal Canadian Navy (active)? Have there been any regulations or orders changing this strength and if so, what is the effect of the change? (b) What is the present actual strength of all ranks now in the Royal Canadian Navy (active)?
2. What is the distribution, by divisions, of the personnel presently on strength?
3. Of the personnel in each division as shown, how many are (a) effective fighting forces; (b) administrative, service and desk personnel (by divisions)?
4. (a) What is the present authorized strength, in officers and other ranks respectively, on ships in commission (give names) of the R.C.N.? (b) What is the present number actually on strength on the ships in commission?

Mr. LAPOINTE: Parts 1 and 2 answered; parts 3 and 4 dropped.

1. (a) 10,375—subject to the total actual strength not exceeding 7,875 for the present.

(b) 6,782.

2. Halifax, 3,523; Headquarters, Ottawa, 178; Esquimalt, 3,081.

ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE (ACTIVE)

Mr. FULTON:

1. What is (a) the authorized strength of the Royal Canadian Air Force (active)? Have there been any regulations or orders changing this strength and if so, what is the effect of the change? (b) What is the present actual strength of all ranks now in the Royal Canadian Air Force (active)?

2. What is the distribution, by commands, of the personnel presently on strength?

3. Of the personnel in each command as shown, how many are (a) effective fighting forces; (b) administrative, service and desk personnel (by commands)?