

4. Under what sections of veterans treatment regulations are Canada's veterans admitted, and in layman's terms, what are the provisions of these sections?

Return tabled.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shall the remaining questions stand?

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition):** At this point I rise on a question of privilege. In view of the desire of hon. members to bring about a termination of this portion of the session without in any way reducing our responsibilities, the matter of answers to questions becomes of great importance. Starred questions in the British tradition are to be answered within three days. The answers to starred questions today are being delayed unnecessarily in certain instances. I point out that starred question No. 81 that I placed on the order paper on May 17 regarding the position of the international control commission in Asia has not yet been answered. There can be no excuse for that delay.

Furthermore, another starred question which the hon. member for Saskatoon (Mr. Brand) put on the order paper on May 8, having to do with the Steven Truscott case, has not been answered. In that instance too there has been an unjustifiable delay. I ask the government to give attention to these matters and to have replies made at the first opportunity. There can be no reason for having starred questions if they are starred only in the record but not in the minds of the ministers to whom they are directed.

### UNITED NATIONS

#### MIDDLE EAST—INQUIRIES AND STATEMENTS ON PRESENT POSITION

On the orders of the day:

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister concerning the excellent speech the Secretary of State for External Affairs delivered at the United Nations during the course of the debate. He set out four definite points; I will not outline them, but they are in his speech.

I would ask this. Was it a matter of government decision that two of the six points enunciated by the Prime Minister in his speech in the house of June 8, 1967, were omitted? I particularly refer to that part on page 1294 of *Hansard* for June 8, 1967, where the Prime Minister said that one of the six points was the establishment once again of a United

#### *Inquiries of the Ministry*

Nations presence in force between the armies that have been fighting, and a presence which will operate on both sides of the border.

Why was that important point omitted? Will the Prime Minister also say, in connection with the Middle East problem, whether his attention has been drawn to the views expressed today by His Holiness the Pope to the effect that Jerusalem should be internationalized? What is the attitude of the government in that regard?

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, so far as the omission of any points made in this house from the speech by the Secretary of State for External Affairs is concerned, if the right hon. gentleman will take another look at the speech he will find the point that he mentioned as having been omitted has been included, but not in the four points that were referred to seriatim. It was referred to as an indication in general of the importance of the United Nations presence in the area. That was referred to in the speech, but not as one of the four points.

So far as the suggestion of His Holiness the Pope is concerned, we have taken the position—and I think I referred to this the other day in the house—that there should be international supervision of the holy places of Jerusalem. That was one of the points the Secretary of State for External Affairs mentioned in his statement.

**Mr. T. C. Douglas (Burnaby-Coquitlam):** Mr. Speaker, I am sure we all welcome the Secretary of State for External Affairs back to the house after his arduous labours. I wish to ask him if any pattern seems to be emerging from the discussions which have taken place, particularly the private discussions at the United Nations and those which have been held between the President of the United States and the premier of the Soviet union.

I should also like the minister to tell us whether there is any particular program for which the Canadian government is pressing, for example a political settlement precedent to any withdrawal of troops, or any long term plan for the placement of refugees and the economic rehabilitation of the middle east.

**Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** I thank the hon. gentleman and the right hon. Leader of the Opposition for their generous words. At the present time there are two propositions before the general assembly, one put forward by the United