

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. Speaker:** I am not sure the question as asked is in order. I shall allow it, while reminding hon. members of what I said a few moments ago—that it is not in order, it seems to me, to ask whether a minister has consulted cabinet colleagues. The hon. member can ask directly what decision has been taken, and to this extent the question is in order.

**Mr. MacDonald (Egmont):** May I ask, then, whether the minister has given this matter his consideration and whether the government has come to some conclusion with regard to it?

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** Whatever unease the hon. member refers to was likely related to guidelines which had been in force with respect to the treatment of military deserters. The policy has been changed and the guidelines formerly in existence have been withdrawn.

**Mr. MacDonald (Egmont):** During the past weekend there seems to have been uncertainty with regard to an ambivalent situation in connection with immigration procedures at border points near Montreal involving some changes which might have resulted from a departmental directive. Would the minister not agree to these directives being considered by a committee in camera, or consent to their publication?

**Mr. MacEachen:** I would hesitate to suggest referring to a committee any matter which is stated so vaguely as the hon. member has stated it.

**ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE****VANCOUVER—TREATMENT OF PRISONER  
AT AIRPORT**

**Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Solicitor General):** On Friday last, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Vancouver Quadra asked me whether I was aware that the R.C.M.P. had brought a shackled and manacled prisoner through the concourse at Vancouver Airport and, if so, what I was doing to check this kind of barbarity.

The hon. member for Vancouver East asked a supplementary question:

Will the Solicitor General look into the fact, proven by photographs, that this man was taken through the Vancouver airport in a strait-jacket as well as being manacled?

I replied that I would look into the matter immediately. I have now done this, and I find that the man was being brought from Prince

George to Vancouver. He was in custody on a charge arising out of holding a robbery victim as a hostage at gunpoint for two days, and he was being taken to another place where it was expected that a further and considerably more serious charge would be laid.

By reason of the nature of the charges and because of certain conduct since his arrest, I am perfectly satisfied that strong security measures were required in this case. As a result of certain direct action which he himself had taken, affecting his wrists, the man could not be handcuffed. A strait-jacket was used instead of handcuffs. The plane was a C.P.A. jet from which passengers exit only by way of a passage leading to the terminal; the manner of unloading normally used by the police could not be employed in this case. This is why the prisoner was taken through the passageway. Photographers had apparently been alerted, and waited in the passageway to get pictures.

**COMBINES****REPORT OF ECONOMIC COUNCIL**

**Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway):** Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs whether he has yet received the report of the Economic Council of Canada on combines and competition? If he does not receive it before the adjournment, will he be publicizing it during the recess?

**Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** I have not received it, Mr. Speaker. I think the usual procedure is for the report to be given to the Prime Minister and released by the Economic Council itself. The report is certainly not submitted to me and I am not in charge of making it public.

**Mrs. MacInnis:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I have in mind the minister's statement of July 3, to be found at page 10789 of *Hansard*:

All we can do is hope the council reports as quickly as possible. If the house is sitting when I receive the report, then naturally I will be making a statement as soon as I receive it.

If the house is not sitting, will the minister publicize the report when he does receive it?

**Mr. Basford:** Mr. Speaker, I am not in charge of publicity for the Economic Council of Canada. My statement that the hon. member quoted was to the effect that when I