

Inquiries of the Ministry

obtaining 75,000 gallons of gasoline per day from Portugal as well as other places such as South Africa so that we can find out whether the expense Canada is incurring is justified.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): Mr. Speaker, it is a fact that some supplies have come from one or two countries. However, there has been some exaggeration in respect of the amount of the supplies which are reported to have come clandestinely from these particular nations. The commonwealth sanctions committee is reviewing this whole problem. The matter is under constant study and I am sure the actions taken, including that taken by the United States the day before yesterday, will have useful results for the program of sanctions.

INVESTIGATION BY U.S. GOVERNMENT OF
REPORTED DANGER SPOTS

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I direct my question to the Prime Minister and ask him whether there is any foundation whatever for the allegations in the press, that are again repeated, that the United States government on direction of the Pentagon has sent out groups of professors for the purpose of looking into danger spots in various parts in the world, including Cuba, Yemen, the Congo and Canada. Did the government make any protest in regard thereto, because the statement goes into a great deal of detail and repeats what was said very recently.

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, there is a starred question on the order paper, I think by the hon. member for Kamloops, asking for information on this particular point. A reply to that question is being prepared and will be given tomorrow.

[Later]

Mr. Diefenbaker: I revert to the question I asked a while ago, to which the Prime Minister replied that the hon. member for Kamloops had placed a similar question on the order paper. I take it he was referring to question No. 689, which reads:

Has the Secretary of State for External Affairs or any official of the department had any communication with any official of the government of the United States concerning any proposed activities to be carried out in Canada by, or under the direction of, the special operations research office of American university—

And so on. That is not the question I asked at all. The question I asked had to do with an investigation by the Pentagon into alleged

danger spots including Canada, a most unusual course for any foreign nation to take. When the Prime Minister's office was asked about this yesterday the answer was "We never heard of it". That is what the press reports.

I now ask the Prime Minister to give an answer to the question I asked, which is quite different from that asked by the hon. member for Kamloops.

Mr. Pearson: There was another question on the order paper, question No. 590, on this specific point. I admit that question No. 689 might not have been exactly on the point raised by the right hon. gentleman. However, I do not mind answering a starred question at this time. We might be able to add something to the reply tomorrow, the answer is not finally prepared.

The answer is: There has been no communication with any official of the government of the United States about any proposed activities to be carried out in Canada by or under the direction of the special operations research office of American University, and inquiries I have made indicate that no official of my department has at any time received any proposal concerning such activities by American University from any official of the government of the United States. That is in answer to starred question No. 689.

Question No. 590 asks:

1. During the last few years, have socio-psychological investigations been conducted by or on behalf of the American military authorities in Canada?

The answer to that is, no. The question continues:

2. If such is the case, has the Canadian government been consulted or informed about them, or has it participated in these investigations?

The answer to that is "Answered by 1 above".

Mr. Diefenbaker: I thank the Prime Minister for that answer. I now ask the question directly; did the Pentagon at any time, or anyone on behalf of the Pentagon, or did Mr. McNamara, the United States Secretary of Defence, have any communication with the government of Canada regarding an investigation being conducted into certain parts of Canada designated by that investigation as danger spots?

Mr. Pearson: No. To my knowledge no such communication has been sent or received, but that is exactly what we are looking into to make sure that no official or no member of the administration has received any such