MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

[*Text*]

COPIES OF ALL STUDIES OR SURVEYS OF RADIATION NEAR PORT HOPE, ONTARIO

Motion No. 84—**Mr. Lawrence:**

That an Order of the House do issue for copies of all studies or surveys of radiation in the vicinity of Port Hope, Ontario, conducted by or for the Atomic Energy Control Board, Eldorado Nuclear Limited, or any other branch or agency of the government which show radiation to be in excess of the accepted levels for public safety, and the exact locations at which these excessive levels were found.

[*English*]

Mr. Maurice Foster (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, on February 19, 1976, the two supporting memoranda on which the July 29, 1975, summary report issued by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources was based, were tabled. In addition, the Minister of National Defence tabled a report respecting radiation levels in the Port Hope area. I would, therefore, request that the hon. member withdraw his motion.

Mr. Lawrence: Transferred for debate.

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate.

● (1510)

[*Text*]

COPY OF CONTRACT WITH LOCKHEED AND AGREED FORMULA

Motion No. 97—**Mr. McKinnon:**

That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency praying that he will cause to be laid before this House a copy of the proposed contract between Lockheed Corporation of Burbank, California and the Government of Canada for the purchase by Canada of eighteen Long Range Patrol Aircraft, including the agreed formula as outlined at page 11617 of *Hansard* dated March 9, 1976.

[*English*]

Mr. Walter Smith (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Supply and Services): Mr. Speaker, it is deemed inappropriate to table before this House papers relating to negotiations leading up to a contract until the contract has been executed or the negotiations have been concluded. I would, therefore, request that the hon. member withdraw his motion.

Mr. McKinnon: Transferred for debate.

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate. Shall the remaining notices for the production of documents be allowed to stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

MOTION TO ADJOURN UNDER S.O. 26

[*English*]

NATIONAL DEFENCE

PURCHASE OF "ORION" AIRCRAFT FROM LOCKHEED CORPORATION

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I ask leave, seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles), to move the adjournment of the House under Standing Order 26 for the purpose of discussing a specific and important matter requiring urgent consideration, namely, the serious possibility that the cabinet will decide tomorrow to proceed with the $1 billion order of Orion aircraft from the Lockheed Corporation in spite of the fact that the financial position of this corporation is dangerously precarious and therefore could lead to a major financial loss for the people of Canada.

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to Standing Order 26, the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby (Mr. Broadbent) has given the Chair the required notice. I wish to make an observation, first, concerning the importance of the matter.

There is no question that the matter is of considerable importance and is certainly worthy of consideration and discussion. However, the conditions that are contained in Standing Order 26 are quite specific. The language is worth repeating, particularly with regard to the description in that Standing Order of the urgency that is involved. That, of course, is one of the primary questions which the Chair must decide. The Standing Order reads:

Leave to make a motion for the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a specific and important matter requiring urgent consideration must be asked immediately before the calling of government orders.

The operative words, therefore, are "requiring urgent consideration". The matter is certainly specific and important, as required by the rule. The question the Chair has to decide is: Does the matter require urgent consideration and, if so, why? In that respect, it is the language of the motion which would indicate the urgency, because it states:

—for the purpose of discussing a specific and important matter requiring urgent consideration, namely, the serious possibility that the cabinet will decide tomorrow to proceed with the $1 billion order of Orion aircraft from the Lockheed Corporation.

The matter of urgency, therefore, is the fact that the cabinet may decide and, if so, would decide tomorrow to proceed with that order. The first concern I have, although this is not the ground for the decision, is that the matter has been before the House for some time. It has now, because of the possibility of a decision tomorrow, acquired some urgency. It seems to me that the matter has had urgency all along. It has been before the House. The minister has been before the standing committee with his estimates. I have not, of course, examined the record there, but I would be very surprised if hon. members had not availed themselves of the opportunity to question the minister before the standing committee on this matter. The minister has certainly been questioned in the House.

The concern that I express, and again I say it is not the basis for the decision because I can foresee the possibility in which these circumstances might exist and still a debate