

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of National Defence): 1. The Department of National Defence has been engaged actively in an anti-pollution campaign in the Arctic for the past several years. Most of the activities have been carried out with other federal departments who have jurisdiction in the area. The main pollution problem is litter and debris. In 1970, air support was provided to Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development to carry out reconnaissance of four abandoned Distant Early Warning sites. In 1971, this program was continued to include an additional 12 sites. The reconnaissance of the five remaining sites which are located on Baffin Island will be carried out during the summer of 1972. Air reserve squadrons have assisted in these reconnaissance and pollution survey missions. As a result of the findings from these reconnaissance flights, a cleanup of Stokes Point, Y.T., is scheduled for July 1972. This will be a combined operation between DND and DIAND and will serve as a pilot project to determine the financial and manpower requirements for the clean-up of the other sites. The Department of Environment is scheduled to carry out an inspection of selected active DEW line sites this summer to ascertain conditions at these locations. At Canadian Forces' Station Alert, a work party and a drum crusher will eliminate pollution from discarded oil drums. A sanitary landfill operation also will be put into operation to alleviate the solid waste disposal problem. Garbage emanating from exercises and manoeuvres in the north is transported out for proper disposal.

2. No members of the Canadian Armed Forces are maintained in the Arctic for the specific purpose of policing (a) the pollution control zone (b) the new fisheries closing line. However, Mobile Command long range patrol aircraft when flying over the Arctic report pollution and fishing control zone violations.

CANADIAN ARMED FORCES—NUMBER OF EMERGENCY CALLS RELATING TO PERSONS LOST IN FORESTS

Question No. 626—**Mr. Laprise:**

By province, and for each year since 1968, how many emergency calls for persons lost in the forest were answered by the Canadian Armed Forces?

[Translation]

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of National Defence): The Canadian Armed Forces are responsible for all aspects of air search and rescue in the areas of Canadian SAR responsibility and for the co-ordination of marine search and rescue in Canadian territorial waters and in designated oceanic areas off the Pacific and Atlantic Coasts. There are four Search and Rescue regions—Halifax, N.S., Trenton, Ont., Edmonton, Alta., Victoria, B.C. Prior to 1970, statistics on missing person incidents were not recorded as a separate category of occurrence from other forms of search and rescue nor are they maintained by province. During the calendar years 1970 and 1971 the Canadian Forces participated in a total of 198 searches for missing persons, and the following is a breakdown by region:

Orders for Returns

SAR Region	1970	1971
Halifax, N.S.	28	28
Trenton, Ont.	22	21
Edmonton, Alta.	24	13
Victoria, B.C.	32	30

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[English]

QUESTIONS PASSED AS ORDERS FOR RETURNS

INFORMATION CANADA

Question No. 87—**Mr. Coates:**

1. What was the total work force of all government information offices prior to the establishment of Information Canada?
2. What is the work force of all government information offices at the present time?
3. What is the total work force of Information Canada at the present time?
4. What is the total budget of Information Canada for the fiscal year 1971-72, and of that amount, how much is earmarked for salaries, wages, and special personal contracts for services rendered?

Return tabled.

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—FEDERAL ASSISTANCE BEAUCONSTITUENCY

Question No. 499—**Mr. Rodrigue:**

Under the Local Initiatives Program and since its inception, were funds invested by the Department of Manpower and Immigration in the constituency of Beauce and, if so (a) what was the total amount (b) what is the complete list of groups who benefited from the program (c) what amount was granted to each group?

Return tabled.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

FINANCE

CANADIAN DOLLAR EXCHANGE LEVEL—MEASURES TO REDUCE SHORT-TERM CAPITAL INFLOW—ASSISTANCE TO EXPORTERS

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I have had a question or two for the Minister of Finance for some days now. He has not been able to be in the House and he is not here today.

Mr. Hees: Here he comes.

Mr. Stanfield: I wonder whether the Minister of Finance could tell me if it is his view and the view of the government that the present level of the Canadian dollar in relation to the United States dollar is a temporary phenomenon or whether he proposes to make a statement and take any measures in this connection?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to make a statement at this time. As to whether or not it is temporary, I cannot forecast that for the hon. gentleman or for the House. I will leave it at that for the moment.