

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. Pickersgill:** That question is out of order already.

**Mr. Churchill:** I am referring to a press release from the minister's office. I am sure he would want that widely circulated; I am giving it some publicity now. Will the minister answer this question in the same way that he answered it in the other place. When will the minister—and I now use his words, Mr. Speaker—"share with us in a preliminary way some of the considerations which have to be taken into account in our study of our foreign policy."

**Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, when I was in the other place this morning I thought of my hon. friend and of the desire which I know at one time he entertained—a desire to be in that place, which was frustrated for one reason or another. I should be glad of course to comply with requests of this house of parliament, as I complied this morning with a request of the other house of parliament.

## VIET NAM—INQUIRY AS TO PRESENT POSITION

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. David Lewis (York South):** I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the continuing and increasingly disturbing escalation of the war in Viet Nam can the Secretary of State for External Affairs tell us whether any new steps are being taken by the international control commission, by any other agency, or by this government?

**Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Yes, Mr. Speaker. There are new efforts being made in several quarters. I am sure my hon. friend knows why it is not possible to go beyond that statement at this moment.

## VETERANS AFFAIRS

## REQUEST THAT PENSION INCREASE BE EXTENDED TO DEPENDANTS

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Jack McIntosh (Swift Current-Maple Creek):** My question is directed to the Minister of Veterans Affairs. Last November the minister announced an increase of 15 per cent in the basic single rates of veterans pensions. At that time he indicated that he had a special group of his staff studying the dependants' rates. In reply to subsequent questions on this

[Mr. Churchill.]

topic he has given evasive and delaying answers. Will the minister now inform the house—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member must be fair to other hon. members and put his question as quickly as possible.

**Mr. McIntosh:** Will the minister now inform the house if the overdue report can be expected before the end of the current session? If not, will he give us a progress report on the activities of his special group, so that we as members of this parliament can reply to the many veterans who are writing to us on this subject?

**Hon. Roger Teillet (Minister of Veterans Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I thought I had answered that kind of question quite clearly yesterday.

[Later:]

**Mr. D. V. Pugh (Okanagan Boundary):** My question is directed to the Minister for Veterans Affairs. When the veterans dependants are given the 15 per cent increase, will such increase be made retroactive to November, 1966, the date of the other 15 per cent raise?

**Hon. Roger Teillet (Minister of Veterans Affairs):** This of course will have to await a decision.

[Translation]

## CANADIAN CONSTITUTION

## REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION OF POSITION OF GOVERNOR GENERAL

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Maurice Allard (Sherbrooke):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs in his capacity as Acting Prime Minister.

Before recommending the appointment of a new governor general, does the government intend to have the office of governor general studied by the committee of officials on constitutional reform, in view of Canada's political evolution?

[English]

## TRANSPORTATION

## INQUIRY AS TO REPORT ON MARITIME STUDY

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Halifax):** My question is for the Minister of Transport. I wonder if he can now shed some light for us on the