

results. I think he is confusing this proposal with another one.

[English]

Mr. Dinsdale: I have a further supplementary question. I think the minister misunderstood.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair recognizes the hon. member for Greenwood. Immediately following his question I will return to the hon. member for Brandon-Souris.

[Later:]

Mr. Dinsdale: Mr. Speaker, I think the problem is the new sound system. I asked the hon. gentleman if he was now going to develop other research stations across the north similar to the excellent program that has been operating at Inuvik since 1962?

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Speaker, I really made a mistake; I did not catch the question. I said we have a good station at Inuvik and are not planning to have another one. If there is need we will extend this one but do not need duplication of stations in Canada.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INDIA—EAST PAKISTAN—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON PRESENT SITUATION AND CANADIAN ACTION

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Secretary of State for External Affairs I should like to direct my question to the Prime Minister. In light of the immense tragedy unfolding in India and East Pakistan and of the deep concern of Canadians, will a full statement be made as soon as possible on motions on the present situation and Canada's plans both by way of direct relief and through action in the United Nations?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I will convey the hon. member's question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs and ascertain his views.

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• (2:50 p.m.)

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

ROLE OF CIVILIAN SECURITY FORCE RESPECTING CHANGES

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Solicitor General. Will he assure the House that no fundamental changes in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police will take place at the initiative of the new civilian security force except by legislation?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, there has been no fundamental change to the policy the right hon. Prime Minister stated to the House in his comments on the report of the Royal Commission on Security in Canada.

Inquiries of the Ministry

[English]

PENITENTIARIES

FAILURE OF INMATES TO RETURN AFTER SPECIAL LEAVE

Mr. A. D. Alkenbrack (Frontenac-Lennox and Addington): My question is also for the Solicitor General. Today's news indicates that two more convicted men have failed to return to Kingston penitentiary after special leave granted them which they have turned into an extended holiday. When will the government change its dangerous, permissive policies in order that the safety of the public will be given its proper priority.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member's question is obviously asked in the form of argument.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

PROPOSED AMCHITKA NUCLEAR TEST—REPRESENTATIONS BY PRIME MINISTER TO UNITED STATES PRESIDENT

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey): Mr. Speaker, I have a question I should like to direct to the Prime Minister. Having in mind the increasing concern in British Columbia about the scheduled massive underground nuclear blast in the north Pacific, can the Prime Minister say whether he has given consideration to making direct representations against this dangerous experiment to the President of the United States.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member is referring to personal representation by myself to the President, I have taken no decision for or against this procedure. I would not want to rule it out completely if I had reason to believe the United States government was not aware of the Canadian government's attitude on this matter, but so far as I am able to ascertain the United States government knows our position. It was stated to them very clearly as early as last February and the note transmitted to them at that time I believe was tabled in the House. Therefore I believe the Americans and the President know our position very well.

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[Translation]

INDIAN AFFAIRS

DISLOCATION OF NATIVE PEOPLE BY PROPOSED JAMES BAY POWER PROJECT—DISCUSSION WITH QUEBEC

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development whether there have been discussions between the federal government and Quebec regarding the dislocation of Indians from the eastern basin of James Bay due to the construction of a power project in the area?

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I got in touch with the government of Quebec as early as last June in that regard, and I suggested the federal and provincial govern-