

*RIVERS, MAN.—DELEGATION RESPECTING
ARMED FORCES BASE

Question No. 353—**Mr. Stewart (Marquette):**

1. Did the Minister of National Defence meet with a delegation of concerned citizens from Manitoba on August 27, 1968, with respect to the future role of the Canadian Forces Base at Rivers, Manitoba and if so, did the Minister inform the delegation that the Defence Committee had recommended the closing of the Rivers Base?

2. Was any other Minister present during the meeting?

Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, the answer to part 1 is yes. I met with a delegation from Manitoba on Tuesday, August 27, 1968. I did not tell the delegation that the defence committee had recommended the closing of the Rivers base. I did say that the whole question of base consolidation was under study and that this subject would be discussed at defence council at some future date.

The answer to part 2 is no.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH ONTARIO FOR
NATIONAL PARK

Question No. 357—**Mr. Dinsdale:**

1. Is the government negotiating with the Province of Ontario with a view to establishing a National Park in that Province and, if so, what area is under consideration?

2. When is it expected that an agreement will be reached?

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): 1. The studies are continuing between officials of the department and provincial officials with a view to establishing a national park in the area of the Canadian shield.

2. The province is studying the matter and we are awaiting their decision.

POST OFFICE IMPROVEMENTS, CHRISTMAS
ISLAND, N.S.

Question No. 358—**Mr. Muir (Cape Breton—The Sydneys):**

1. On what date were the plans and specifications prepared to improve the disposal field and improve the surface draining system at the Christmas Island Post Office?

2. Have tenders been called for the performance of such improvements to the said Post Office and when are such improvements expected to be completed?

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Public Works): 1. June 10, 1968.

2. Yes. A contract was awarded on July 17, 1968, and will be completed momentarily.

Questions

THREE POINT SEAT BELTS

Question No. 360—**Mr. Mather:**

Have representations been received from car importers protesting the lack of a federal safety standard respecting 3-point seat belts?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): No. There is already available a standard for seat belt assemblies, No. 97-GP-209: Seat belt assemblies—passenger cars, multipurpose passenger vehicles, trucks and buses, issued by the Canadian government specifications board. The board has also issued three supplementary standards: 97-GP-208: Anchorages of seats, passenger cars; 97-GP-208: Seat belt installations, passenger cars; 97-GP-210: Seat belt assembly anchorages, passenger cars.

SAFETY STANDARDS OF IMPORTED
AUTOMOBILES

Question No. 361—**Mr. Mather:**

Are automobiles imported into Canada, for sale in Canada, required to conform to federal safety standards?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): No. Vehicles purchased by the federal government for use by its departments and agencies are however required to conform to the motor vehicles safety standards issued by the Canadian government specifications board. Vehicles made in, and imported from the United States, conform to all these standards because the technical requirements in the United States, where compliance is mandatory, and in Canada are identical.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE ON HIGHWAY
SAFETY

Question No. 362—**Mr. Mather:**

Will consideration be given at this Session to establishing a Parliamentary Committee to concern itself with the subject of the human and economic toll taken by automobile accidents and the need to develop protective procedures and devices to reduce this attrition of our resources?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): Full attention will be given to the suggestion put forward by the hon. member and the government's decision will be made known in due course; in any case, as indicated by earlier statements and answers to other questions raised by the hon. member, this general area is receiving active consideration by the government.