

largest threat to our nation's security is subversive activities within our country by foreign interests and not the activities of the RCMP, and because it is believed by many, including members of that force as well as Igor Gouzenko, former Soviet cipher clerk, that espionage activities dangerous to our national security continue to run rampant, particularly out of the Soviet Embassy in Ottawa where nearly 700 special travel permits in one year alone were granted by this government to so-called soviet diplomats and military attachés, a number of whom have since been expelled by the government for "activities which were incompatible with their status", I move, seconded by the hon. member for Leeds (Mr. Cossitt):

That this House instruct the Solicitor General to have the terms of reference of the McDonald Commission extended to include such subversive elements as the contents of the Featherbed file as well as related information which has been compiled over the years by the security forces dealing with any or all espionage activities in Canada by foreign interests which may be damaging to the security of our nation.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Such a motion can be presented for debate at this time only with the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: No.

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FISHERIES

COMMENDATION OF MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR THE SEAL FISHERY—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, I wish to move a motion under Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. Figures released by the Department of Fisheries and the Environment supporting increases on seal quotas for Canadians should lay to rest claims by the nattering nabobs of negativism who predict the extinction of the seal herd. Since a non-partisan amendment to the sealing regulations presented by the hon. member for Grand Falls-White Bay-Labrador (Mr. Rompkey) and myself will now insure the seal fishery will be free from harassment by those who try to prevent the seal hunt, I move, seconded by the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath) and the hon. member for St. John's West (Mr. Crosbie):

That this House commends management practices of all those connected with the seal fishery who have demonstrated sound knowledge of conservation and harvesting practices.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Presentation of such a motion pursuant to Standing Order 43 can be done only with the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Oral Questions

THE LATE TOMMY PRINCE

PROPOSAL TO HONOUR BY CREATION OF SUITABLE MEMORIAL—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, I rise pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 43, regarding one of this country's greatest war heroes, whose death on November 26 in obscurity and apparent poverty, epitomizes the lack of appreciation given to military people in time of peace. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe (Mr. Marshall):

That Tommy Prince, who achieved ten major military medals fighting for his country, be honoured by the creation of a suitable memorial, details or arrangements to be the responsibility of the Minister of National Defence after consultation with all those concerned, to commemorate the memory of this great soldier whose contribution ought to have the same national significance in Canada as that of his American counterpart, Ira Hayes, who will always be remembered by Americans for his part in raising the American flag over Mount Surabachi when the American marines captured Iwo Jima in World War II.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I have indicated in the past that motions of a congratulatory nature give the House a great deal of difficulty, not because they do not contain merit in themselves but because they are an open invitation for the use of motions under Standing Order 43 on matters of this kind which are hard for the House to deal with in a short period of time. I wonder about the wisdom of using that practice. I have let one go today and I do not think I should allow a second.

I think in view of the circumstances in which I had to delay the beginning of the question period by five minutes in order to make an announcement which affected some motions pursuant to Standing Order 43 and obviously some questions, that I ought to conclude the question period at five minutes past three. Oral questions.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

REASON FOR CONTINUING HIGH LEVEL OF INFLATION—DATE WHEN LEVEL WILL REACH FOUR PER CENT

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance who was in his seat. Perhaps we could just give him a minute to come back. Here he comes.

An hon. Member: Just like inflation; he is back again.

Mr. Stevens: My question to the minister is very short. As inflation in Canada in the past three months has been running at an annualized rate of more than 8 per cent, more than twice the level in the United States, would the minister indicate why our inflation levels continue to be so high compared to those experienced by our main trading partner?