HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, November 5, 1973

The House met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

TABLING OF UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL AGREEMENT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF SECOND PHASE OF RESOLUTION 340, AND CERTAIN NOTES

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I would like to table the texts of the following documents: the United Nations Security Council Agreement of November 2 on the implementation of the second phase of Security Council resolution 340 of October 25, notes dated October 30 and November 4 from the permanent representative of Canada to the Secretary General of the United Nations and, finally, the note of October 30 from the Secretary General to Canada's permanent representative.

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INDIAN AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

CONCURRENCE IN SIXTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Judd Buchanan (London West) moved that the sixth report of the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development, presented to the House on October 26, 1973, be concurred in.

He said: Mr. Speaker, there has been discussion with the various House leaders on this matter and I believe there is agreement that the report be concurred in without debate.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed. Motion agreed to.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

ROLE OF CANADIAN ELEMENT IN MIDDLE EAST PEACEKEEPING FORCE—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43

to ask for unanimous consent of the House to raise a motion of urgent and pressing necessity. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain (Mr. Hamilton):

That this House views with concern the indecorous haste exhibited by the Canadian government in its anxiety to secure consent of objecting nations within the United Nations to having Canadians in the peacekeeping force for service in the Middle East, whereby without regard to the magnificent record of Canadians in two world wars Canada's No. 1 combat alert unit is to be placed in a secondary position in the peacekeeping force being given a responsibility analogous to that of hewers of wood and drawers of water for other nationals in the said force.

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent.

Mr. Wagner: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I would like to ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs whether he is prepared to make a statement on motions relating to his discussions over the weekend in New York and Washington.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That is hardly a point of order. Hon. members know that we would get into difficulty if on motions hon. members were to ask members of the government whether they propose to make statements. I appreciate the importance of the matter. Perhaps the minister might be allowed to reply. But I think the hon. member would agree that if the minister rose and made a statement that would answer the question. That is why, normally, this kind of question is not asked on motions.

• (1410)

NORTHERN AFFAIRS

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES—LETTING OF CONTRACTS BY HIRE NORTH—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Wally Firth (Northwest Territories): Mr. Speaker, in view of reports of a serious conflict of interest with respect to the letting of contracts in connection with a government project in my constituency of the Northwest Territories, I ask leave, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, seconded by the hon. member for Skeena (Mr. Howard), to move as follows:

That the letting of contracts by Hire North, a Northwest Territories government project, be referred to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts for the purpose of determining whether tenders were called before such contracts were authorized, and