

SEWAGE DISPOSAL, BANFF*Question No. 1,342—Mr. Woolliams:**

1. Are enterprises in Banff, Alberta, departmental and otherwise, pouring raw sewage into the streams and Bow River?

2. Has the CPR constructed a sewage disposal plant in their hotels at Banff and Lake Louise, and is raw sewage being poured into the rivers and streams in the Park by these hotels?

Mr. Yves Forest (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development reports as follows: 1. Sewage from the Banff townsite sewer system is presently discharged untreated into the Bow River. The department plans a sewage treatment plant for the town of Banff in the near future.

2. The C.P.R. has constructed a sewage disposal plant at Chateau Lake Louise. Sewage from the Banff Springs Hotel enters the Banff townsite sewage system and is discharged untreated.

INFILTRATION OF LAOS BY NORTH VIETNAMESE**Question No. 1,363—Mr. Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys):**

Has the International Control Commission, on which Canada is represented, been requested at any time in the past six months to investigate allegations of North Vietnamese massive infiltration into Laotian Territory and, if so, with what results?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Within the last six months, the Royal Laotian Government has, on three occasions, complained to the International Control Commission about the illegal presence and activities of North Vietnamese forces in Laos as evidenced by attacks on the government post at Thateng in the southern panhandle adjoining South Vietnam (Royal Laotian Government notes dated November 29, 1968, December 14, 1968 and January 9, 1969). Despite the efforts of the Canadian Delegation to have formal investigations made of these complaints, only the first two were subjected to first-hand inquiry by Commission representatives but only in a preliminary way during an "observation visit" on January 2-3 of this year. As regards the third complaint, our Commission partners—India and Poland—voted against a Canadian proposal for an investigation and no further action on the complaint has been taken.

Questions

Final judgments have not yet been rendered by the Commission on the factual conclusions which can be drawn from the evidence available on these incidents. The Canadian Delegation has been attempting to obtain agreement on a Commission report not only of its visit to Thateng but of visits to other towns in the same area which the Commission made in February and April 1968 in response to similar complaints by the Royal Laotian Government.

Direct evidence regarding the exact extent of North Vietnamese infiltration into Laos is difficult for the Commission to establish because it is not permitted entry into the communist-controlled areas of Laos. Nevertheless, evidence of North Vietnamese military activity in Laos—in contravention of the terms of the 1962 Geneva settlement relating to that country—has been clearly established by the Commission in areas controlled by the Royal Laotian Government and has been made public and reported to the House on earlier occasions.

METEGHAN RIVER, N.S., CUSTOMS OFFICE**Question No. 1,367—Mr. Comeau:**

Is the government considering closing the Customs and Excise office at Meteghan River, Nova Scotia and, if so, on what date?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Côté (Minister of National Revenue): The Customs operations at the Outport of Meteghan River are currently being reviewed to determine whether services provided are consistent with existing needs and are fully justified in relation to administrative and operational costs. The review has not been concluded and I am therefore not in a position at this time to say whether or not the Customs office will be maintained at that location.

SECURITY SERVICE FOR FOREIGN EMBASSIES**Question No. 1,389—Mr. Robinson:**

Does the federal government provide police and/or security service for Embassies and Consulates of foreign countries and, if so, what was the cost of the service provided during each of the years 1960-68 inclusive?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): In so far as the Department of External Affairs is concerned, yes. The cost for each of the years 1960-68 was: 1960-1966 inclusive, Nil; 1967, \$40,736.48; 1968, \$31,059.50.