

Order Paper Questions

[Text]

EXPORTS OF URANIUM HEXAFLUORIDE

Question No. 4,053—Mr. Siddon:

1. How many tonnes of uranium hexafluoride were exported (a) from Canada (b) through the Port of Montreal in (i) 1980 (ii) 1981?

2. How many tonnes of uranium hexafluoride were shipped from Canada direct to the U.S.S.R. for further enrichment into the isotopes uranium 235 and uranium 238 en route to the final countries of destination during (a) 1980 (b) 1981?

3. How many tonnes of uranium hexafluoride were exported from Canada on export permits designating Finland as the ultimate destination during (a) 1980 (b) 1981 and, in each case, to the knowledge of the government (i) how many tonnes were finally received in Finland (ii) how many tonnes destined for Finland actually left the U.S.S.R. in the form of the enriched uranium isotope U235 and what is it used for (iii) how many tonnes destined for Finland actually left the U.S.S.R. in the form of enriched isotope U238 and to what agency or agencies was the material shipped and what is it used for (iv) how many tonnes of residue resulting from the enrichment in the U.S.S.R. were actually left in the U.S.S.R. and what was the final form of the residue and how was it disposed of?

4. How many tonnes of uranium hexafluoride were exported from Canada on export permits designating East Germany as the ultimate destination during (a) 1980 (b) 1981 and, in each case, to the knowledge of the government (i) how many tonnes were finally received in East Germany (ii) how many tonnes destined for East Germany actually left the U.S.S.R. in the form of the enriched isotope U235 and what is it used for (iii) how many tonnes destined for East Germany actually left the U.S.S.R. in the form of the enriched isotope U238 and to what agency or agencies was the material shipped and what is it used for (iv) how many tonnes of residue resulting from the enrichment in the U.S.S.R. were actually left in the U.S.S.R. and what was the final form of the residue and how was it disposed of?

5. How many tonnes of uranium hexafluoride were exported from Canada on export permits designating South Africa as the ultimate destination during (a) 1980 (b) 1981 and, in each case, to the knowledge of the government (i) how many tonnes were finally received in South Africa (ii) how many tonnes destined for South Africa actually left the U.S.S.R. in the form of the enriched uranium isotope U235 and what is it used for (iii) how many tonnes destined for South Africa actually left the U.S.S.R. in the form of the enriched isotope U238 and to what agency or agencies was the material shipped and what is it used for (iv) how many tonnes of residue resulting from the enrichment in the U.S.S.R. were actually left in the U.S.S.R. and what was the final form of the residue and how was it disposed of?

6. How many tonnes of uranium hexafluoride were exported from Canada on export permits designating Italy as the ultimate destination during (a) 1980 (b) 1981 and, in each case, to the knowledge of the government (i) how many tonnes were finally received in Italy (ii) how many tonnes destined for Italy actually left the U.S.S.R. in the form of the enriched uranium isotope U235 and what is it used for (iii) how many tonnes destined for Italy actually left the U.S.S.R. in the form of the enriched isotope U238 and to what agency or agencies was the material shipped and what is it used for (iv) how many tonnes of residue resulting from the enrichment in the U.S.S.R. were actually left in the U.S.S.R. and what was the final form of the residue and how was it disposed of?

7. To what other countries and in what tonnages was uranium hexafluoride exported from Canada during (a) 1980 (b) 1981 and, in each case (i) what was the name of the purchaser (ii) did the country of destination request that the uranium hexafluoride be shipped initially to the U.S.S.R. for enrichment and how many tonnes of the isotope U235 and the isotope U238 were produced within the U.S.S.R.?

8. Was each shipment in Part 7 registered with the International Atomic Energy Agency and are detailed records of all subsequent destinations of Canadian uranium, in all its forms, maintained by the Atomic Energy Control Board?

Mr. David Smith (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Atomic Energy Control Board and Statistics Canada as follows:

1. (a) (i) 1980—8410 tonnes (t) uranium, (ii) 1981—8830 t uranium. (b) Under the confidentiality provisions of the Statistics Act, statistics on exports of uranium hexafluoride

are not published separately due to the small number of reporting firms. The Act ensures that no information relating to the particulars obtained from any individual return to any identifiable individual person, business or organization is disclosed.

2. (a) 1980—840 t uranium, (b) 1981—443 t uranium.

3. (a) 1980—308 t uranium, (i) 248.125 t uranium, (ii) 55 t of uranium containing 1.6 t of the uranium isotope U*in235 and 53.4 t of the isotope U*in238 left the U.S.S.R. for fabrication into fuel assemblies for use in Finnish nuclear power reactors. (iii) 230 t of depleted uranium containing 229.5 t of U*in238 and 0.5 t of U*in235 were shipped to Finland and subsequently transferred to the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) under terms of Canada/Euratom Agreement for the peaceful uses of atomic energy. (iv) 0.5 t of depleted uranium remained in the U.S.S.R. at the end of 1980.

(b) 1981—232 t uranium, (i) 183.9 t uranium, (ii) 30 t of uranium containing 0.9 t of the uranium isotope U*in235 and 29.1 t of the uranium isotope U*in238 left the U.S.S.R. for fabrication into fuel assemblies for use in Finnish nuclear power reactors. (iii) 130.6 of depleted uranium containing 130.3 t of U*in238 and 0.3 t of U*in235 were shipped to Finland and subsequently transferred to Euratom under terms of the Canada/Euratom Agreement for the peaceful uses of atomic energy. (iv) 0.6 t of depleted uranium remained in the U.S.S.R. at the end of 1981. This includes the 0.5 t of depleted uranium that remained in the U.S.S.R. at the end of 1980.

4. (a) 1980—None. (i)—(iv) Not applicable. (b) 1981—None. (i)—(iv) Not applicable.

5. (a) 1980—None. (i)—(iv) Not applicable. (b) 1981—None. (i)—(iv) Not applicable.

6. (a) 1980—533 t uranium. (i) 533 t of uranium were received in the Euratom destined for use in Italy. Under the Canada/Euratom Agreement materials are accounted for on a community basis rather than a state basis. (ii)—(iv) No uranium destined for Italy has gone via the U.S.S.R.

(b) 1981—692 t uranium. (i)—(iv) No uranium destined for Italy has gone via the U.S.S.R.

7. (a) 1980 (Ultimate destinations)

Federal Republic of Germany (FRG)—545 t uranium

(i) German utilities. (ii) The FRG requested that 133 t of uranium be enriched in the U.S.S.R. U*in235 and U*in238 are not produced in the enrichment process. The process involves increasing the quantity of U*in235 in part of the material by decreasing the quantity of U*in235 in the remaining part. The total amount of U*in238 and U*in235 does not change.

Belgium—844 t uranium. (i) Belgian utilities, (ii) No.

Spain—1313 t uranium. (i) Spanish utilities, (ii) Spain requested that 400 t of uranium be enriched in the U.S.S.R.

Japan—2400 t uranium. (i) Japanese utilities, (ii) No.

United States of America—1509 t uranium. This includes 1 t of uranium shipped to the U.S.A. for storage awaiting toll