HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, January 26, 1976

The House met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

PENITENTIARIES

SUGGESTED COMMITTEE STUDY OF RESTRICTIONS ON NEWS MEDIA IN REPORTING MILLHAVEN INQUIRY—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, in spite of the natural enthusiasm which members are expressing in meeting here for the first time, I should like to move a motion under Standing Order 43 with regard to a matter of urgent and pressing importance.

My motion deals with the terms and conditions being imposed on the news media by Miss Inger Hansen in respect of their reporting of the inquiry which Miss Hansen is currently holding into an incident last November at the Millhaven penitentiary and the fact that this House should demand an explanation of what appears on the surface to be a very dangerous practice.

I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Malpeque (Mr. MacLean):

That the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs inquire into the restrictions placed on the news media by Miss Inger Hansen in regard to the inquiry into certain events at Millhaven penitentiary and report to the House whether this interference with the right of the news media to report freely and fully upon a public inquiry is justified in the circumstances.

Mr. Speaker: A motion can only be presented pursuant to Standing Order 43 with the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

REQUEST THAT RUSSIA ADHERE TO PROVISIONS OF HELSINKI AGREEMENT—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I, too, rise pursuant to provisions of Standing Order 43. During International Women's Year a number of women's associations drew the attention of Canadians and of people elsewhere in the world to the existence of certain women political prisoners in the U.S.S.R. These women have been sentenced under certain articles of the Ukranian Criminal Code which clearly conflict with the constitution of the

U.S.S.R. and the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights.

I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles):

That the Canadian government urge the government of the Soviet Union to adhere to the human rights provisions spelled out in the Helsinki agreement and that Canada take the initiative in raising this question at the United Nations.

Mr. Speaker: The motion pursuant to Standing Order 43 requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

NATIONAL DEFENCE

PROPOSED COMMITTEE STUDY OF CLOSURE OF BASES— MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 43. My motion relates to a special secret study being made in reference to the closure of certain military armed services bases, in particular Calgary, where land, armoured, infantry and services forces includes 2,300 officers and men and 480 civilians.

I move, seconded by the hon. member for Calgary Centre (Mr. Andre):

That before any Canadian base is closed, particularly Calgary, the matter be referred to the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence so as the facts and reasons for the review are all disclosed openly in the committee so the public is made aware of the real reasons for such closures and for the purpose of avoiding any discrimination against any part of the country.

Mr. Speaker: The motion under Standing Order 43 requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.