

Inquiries of the Ministry

which the Secretary of State for External Affairs may have to tell us in relation to the Gabon crisis?

Mr. Martin (Essex East): There is nothing I can usefully say at this point.

REPRESENTATIONS TO FRANCE FOLLOWING
RECOGNITION OF RED CHINA

On the orders of the day:

[*Translation*]

Mr. Real Caouette (Villeneuve): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister.

Has Canada made representations to France since the recognition of the Peking government by the latter? If so, what is the nature of those representations?

[*Text*]

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, to my knowledge we have made no representations to the French government on this matter since the decision was taken.

[*Later:*]

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gerard Chapdelaine (Sherbrooke): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

In view of recent events, is the government considering, independently of the position of the United States, recognizing red China?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): The hon. member knows very well that Canada is a sovereign state; her government will come to a decision in that matter, taking into account only what concerns Canada and what comes under its jurisdiction.

Mr. Chapdelaine: Is the Secretary of State for External Affairs in a position to tell this house where the negotiations stand in respect of this matter?

Mr. Martin (Essex East): Mr. Speaker, I answered this question in this house scarcely three months ago, and there is nothing I can add.

HAITI—REPRESENTATIONS RESPECTING EXPULSION
OF CANADIAN JESUITS

On the orders of the day:

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gilles Gregoire (Lapointe): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Can he tell us if there have been new developments or new talks between the government of Canada and that of Haiti concerning the recent deportation of Canadian Jesuit priests from that country?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, all I can say is that the 18 members of the Canadian Jesuit mission were all deported from Haiti on February 12 because it was alleged that they had conceived a plan to overthrow the Haitian government. Before they left, I had requested the Canadian chargé d'affaires in Port au Prince to hand over to the Haitian minister of foreign affairs a communication in which I declared that we could not accept vague charges to the effect that the mission's activity had been in any way irregular and pointed out that we were dissatisfied with his government's decision to deport missionaries who had been working for some ten years in the interest of the Haitian people. Moreover, on Thursday last I called the Haitian chargé d'affaires in Ottawa to my office and told him I could not accept the charge of conspiracy against his government given as the reason for deporting the Canadian Jesuit missionaries.

[*Text*]

Mr. Raymond Langlois (Megantic): Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. Now that we know what the Secretary of State for External Affairs told the Haitian government, we would also like to know what they answered in reply.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Martin (Essex East): Mr. Speaker, their answer was not satisfactory.

[*Text*]

U.S. FISHING RIGHTS WITHIN CANADIAN
12 MILE LIMIT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. T. S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Fisheries. I would like him to tell the house whether the United States has agreed to accept the proclamation by Canada of the 12 mile territorial fishing limit with the base line drawn from headland to headland, that would include such waters as Queen Charlotte sound and the gulf of St. Lawrence, and whether the United States has agreed to accept some termination date for its so-called historic fishing rights?

Hon. H. J. Robichaud (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, four meetings have been held with the United States on this important question of the 12 mile limit. Details have still to be negotiated and I do not