

[Translation]

### GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

#### ENERGY, MINES AND RESOURCES—REQUEST FOR MORE BILINGUALISM

**Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question of the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources.

I have asked his predecessors several times in the past to put more emphasis on publications written in the French language and issued by his department. In view of the poor results so far, may I ask the minister whether or not he intends to take whatever steps are necessary to ensure that publications issued by his department are published in French as well as in English.

**Mr. Speaker:** May I suggest to the hon. member that this question should be on the order paper or discussed, if he so desires, at the time of adjournment.

[English]

### NATIONAL DEFENCE

#### REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON CONSOLIDATION OF BASES

**Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of National Defence whether he is in a position to tell the house at the present time when he expects to make a definitive statement, probably on motions, in respect of what defence bases the government contemplates being able to keep in operation in Canada?

**Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, I can appreciate my hon. friend's concern about this matter and I am grateful that he has put his question in positive terms. What he wants to know, obviously, is how soon will I be able to announce the bases that will close. I must say that we have been working on this problem continuously, but until final details are known I will have to ask him to be content with the traditional "soon".

#### SUGGESTED REACTIVATION OF U.S.-CANADA JOINT MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE

**Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of National Defence what action the government is taking to implement one of the recommendations of the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence, its

#### *Inquiries of the Ministry*

suggestion that it would be a good idea to reactivate the United States-Canada joint ministerial committee which has not met in five years?

**Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, I believe that this question would be more properly directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. The arrangements concerning the two departments of defence have not precluded frequent meetings. Actually these meetings take place all the time, and so as far as my department is concerned the communication we have with those on the other side of the border is constant and frequent.

#### PHASING-OUT OF U.S. BASES IN CANADA

**Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate):** Mr. Speaker, may I ask the defensive Minister of National Defence whether he has had any negotiations with his United States counterpart regarding the phasing-out of United States bases in Canada, and whether he will make available to the House the results of such negotiations.

**Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, there were no negotiations as such. We were informed ahead of time of the announcement that was planned by the United States Secretary of Defence. There were no negotiations. I do not think we are in a position to negotiate a thing like that. The base at Argentia, to which I assume the hon. member was referring, was a naval operation for the United States. They have chosen to reduce it and there is nothing we can do about it.

**Mr. Lundrigan:** May I ask the minister whether in fact his department will be moving in respect of these bases so that the void created by the phasing-out will be filled in order to protect our own sovereignty and ease the economic imbalance in different parts of Canada?

**Mr. Cadieux (Labelle):** Mr. Speaker, I believe—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I suggest to hon. members that we are now at the stage of debate on this subject. Perhaps we might go on to another subject matter.

**Mr. Lundrigan:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, we have just this week had announcements of two phase-outs of United States bases in Canada which affect thousands of people. I think this is a national emergency. We did not use Standing Order 26 to adjourn the House because we thought we would have time to pose these questions.