

*Inquiries of the Ministry***NATIONAL DEFENCE**NATO AND NORAD—REQUEST FOR POSITION  
OF MINISTERS ON POLICY

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Minister of National Defence, who is in charge of the defences of the nation. When he made the statement giving his full and undivided support to NATO and its continuance, was he speaking for the government and, if so, would he post a letter to the Postmaster General to remind him of that fact.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I suggest that a question relating to statements made outside the house can only be directed to the Prime Minister.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** I shall ask it without referring to anything outside the house. Is the minister taking a stand on behalf of the government, a most statesmanlike stand too, that NATO shall be preserved for the defence of this nation? Can't the minister answer?

**Hon. Leo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence):** I was stating my personal conviction. Of course I can.

**Mr. Jack McIntosh (Swift Current-Maple Creek):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a supplementary question to the Minister of National Defence. Is the minister stating current government defence policy when he says that the present policy is that laid down by the white paper of 1964?

**Mr. Cadieux (Labelle):** I do not believe I said that, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. McIntosh:** I will rephrase my question.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The question asked by the hon. member and the question asked by the right hon. member for Prince Albert point up the difficulty in asking a minister about statements made outside the house. The rule is quite clear that the only reference that can be made to such statements is by way of a question to the Prime Minister, asking whether such a declaration represents government policy.

**Mr. McIntosh:** May I rephrase my question. Is current Canadian defence policy the same as that set out in the white paper of 1964?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member is asking the minister to give a statement on policy. I have the impression that this kind of statement should be made on

[English]

**RURAL DEVELOPMENT**NOVA SCOTIA—ARDA REPORT RESPECTING  
NORTHERN COUNTIES

**Mr. H. Russell MacEwan (Central Nova):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct this question to the parliamentary secretary to the minister for rural development. On January 15 I asked the minister regarding the possibility of making public the ARDA task force report on the nine northern counties of Nova Scotia. The minister at that time said that he would take the question under consideration and answer later. Would the parliamentary secretary look into the matter and give an answer tomorrow or the day after?

**Mr. Russell C. Honey (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Forestry and Rural Development):** Mr. Speaker, the minister was here earlier. I will bring the question to his attention.

**AIRPORTS**

OTTAWA—CONDITION OF ACCESS ROAD

**Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley):** Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to the question asked by my colleague the hon. member for South Shore of the Minister of Transport. I am not sure whether my question should be addressed to the Minister of Transport or to the minister who is responsible for the National Capital Commission. My question is whether any minister of the cabinet or any cabinet committee is looking into the matter of the condition of the road from the airport to the city of Ottawa. Is any work being done on this with the proper civic authorities?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The question should be placed on the order paper.

**Mr. Nowlan:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I quite appreciate that during this question period questions must be of national importance and urgency. Unless something is done pretty soon we will not be able to drive from the airport to the city because of the potholes which are showing up in the road at a rate that would not even be usual in the Yukon Territory.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. That is not a question; it is a grievance.