

Questions

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of National Defence): 1, 3 and 4. This information is tabled in the House annually in accordance with Revised Statutes 1966-67, c.44, s.53, and also appears in the Public Accounts, as Appendix 1, to the National Defence Expenditures.

2. Section 21 of the Canadian Forces Superannuation Regulations were amended by TB/CT 692055-1, dated September 25, 1969. The actual interest rates for the four quarters subsequent to this date, were as follows: Quarter ending September 1969, 1.2416 per cent; December 1969, 1.2575 per cent; March 1970, 1.2868 per cent; June 1970, 1.3174 per cent.

PUBLIC RELATIONS FIRMS HIRED BY GOVERNMENT
TO PRODUCE INFORMATION ON GOVERNMENT
POLICIES

Question No. 81—**Mr. Orlikow:**

1. What public relations firms or economic or social research organizations have (a) been commissioned by government departments, agencies or Crown corporations (b) been hired or given contracts to produce pamphlets, brochures, economic surveys, etc., for educating or explaining government policies to the public?

2. By what government department or agency were they hired?

3. What specific task were they given to do?

4. How much money were they paid?

5. Was the choice of the firm concerned arrived at by asking for tenders and, if not, how was the choice made?

Mr. J. A. Jerome (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): See return to question No. 1,427 deposited with the Clerk of the House of Commons on June 22, 1970.

INCOME TAX ACT AMENDMENTS FOR CLAIMS OF
CAPITAL COSTS FOR AIRCRAFT

Question No. 84—**Mr. Forrestall:**

Will the government give consideration to amending that section of the Income Tax Act which provides claims of capital costs for automobiles used in the course of employment with a view to including aircraft?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): This is a matter of Government policy. If the Government should decide to propose an amendment to the Income Tax Act to make the suggested change it will be announced at the appropriate time.

D.D.H. CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

Question No. 123—**Mr. Forrestall:**

1. What was the original cost estimate, including all components, of the present DDH construction program?

2. What is the present cost estimate including all components and sea trials?

3. Is the construction program on time and, if not, what is the nature of the delay?

4. Have there been any substantial cutbacks in the components of this program in order to maintain the original cost estimate?

[Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre).]

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of National Defence): 1. See *Hansard* dated April 28, 1969, page 8035.

2. The program, including costs, is presently under review.

3. No, there is a delay of approximately one year. Until the review has been completed, it is impossible to be more specific.

4. See 2 above.

NATIONAL DEFENCE—REDUCTION OF FORCES

Question No. 125—**Mr. Forrestall:**

1. Has the Department of National Defence been instructed to prepare contingency plans for the reduction of the Canadian Armed Forces to a level below 60,000 members?

2. Is the government considering a further phased reduction of the strength of the Canadian Armed Forces beyond that already publicly announced and, if so, from what elements will such reduction be made?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of National Defence): 1. No, present plans call for a regular force strength of approximately 82,000 by April 1, 1973.

2. No.

MARITIME COMMAND PERSONNEL

Question No. 130—**Mr. Forrestall:**

1. In the nine months ended September 30, 1970, how many officers or men of the Maritime Command (a) have been released (b) transferred to other commands including Headquarters?

2. What was the strength of the Maritime Command as of January 1 and September 30, 1970?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of National Defence): 1. (a) One hundred and thirty-eight officers, 1,327 men, have been released through normal attrition, e.g. reaching age for retirement, medical grounds, voluntary, etc. (b) Records are not maintained in a manner which would make this information readily available without a costly manual search of individual files.

	January 1, 70	September 30, 70
2. Officers	2,011	2,172
Men	13,120	13,486

APPOINTMENT OF WOMEN TO CERTAIN POSITIONS

Question No. 133—**Mr. Forrestall:**

1. In the period commencing April 23, 1968 and ending July 25, 1969, how many women were appointed to a position or otherwise employed, other than under the provisions of sections 8 and 9 of the *Public Service Employment Act*, by the government under conditions or remuneration equitable to a salary of \$10,000 or more per year?

2. Who are they?

3. By whom were they employed and what was the rank of their position?

4. How many men were appointed or otherwise employed under the same conditions during the same period of time?

Mr. J. A. Jerome (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): See return to question No.