

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. Nowlan:** I have a supplementary, Mr. Speaker, in order to clarify the confusion that seems to exist in the minister's mind. In view of the very large holdings of United States dollars and the decreased holdings of gold, does the government or the Bank of Canada have any policy to diversify their holdings of reserves or does the government or the Bank of Canada have a guarantee on the exchange rate on the dollars we hold.

**Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton):** No; there is no guaranteed rate.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. A number of supplementaries are sought. Perhaps for the moment the Chair will recognize the hon. member for Regina-Lake Centre.

**Mr. Benjamin:** It is not a supplementary.

**Mr. Speaker:** I appreciate it is not. The hon. member is recognized so that we may finish the first round of questions, and then return to the supplementaries.

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## ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

ALLEGATIONS BY FORMER CORPORAL RAMSAY—  
REQUEST FOR STATEMENT BY MINISTER

**Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Solicitor General. In view of his admission yesterday that he had not read the article by ex-Corporal Ramsay which appeared in *Maclean's* Magazine, and in view of the serious charges and other statements in the article, has he now read the article, and if not why not? If he has, what action does he intend to take by way of inquiry? Also, will he make a statement in the House?

• (1420)

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Solicitor General):** Mr. Speaker, unfortunately I have not yet had the time to read that article. As for an inquiry into the RCMP, it would be untimely in view of the circumstances because no precise fact which could justify it was drawn to my attention.

[English]

ALLEGED PUBLICATION OF PART OF CONSULTANTS  
REPORT BY COMMISSIONER—REQUEST FOR TABLING OF  
REPORT

**Mr. Benjamin:** I have a supplementary, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact that Commissioner Higgitt has made public statements in which he quoted certain portions of a consultants report which was submitted to the force and classified as an internal document, and since part of the report has now been made public by the Commissioner, will the minister table the entire report so that its entire contents may be known to this House and the public?

[Translation]

**Mr. Goyer:** No, Mr. Speaker. As the hon. member so well said, it is an internal document among others on which we are working.

[Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton).]

[English]

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Selkirk on a supplementary.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The Chair has recognized the hon. member for Selkirk.

ALLEGATIONS BY FORMER CORPORAL RAMSAY—  
POSSIBLE INVESTIGATION

**Mr. Doug Rowland (Selkirk):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Solicitor General. In light of the fact that the article referred to by my colleague makes serious charges and that those charges must either be true, in which case there are some problems in the RCMP or false in which case the reputation of the RCMP has been unnecessarily damaged, will the minister make an investigation of the charges referred to in the article so that they can be cleared up.

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Solicitor General):** Mr. Speaker, as I said yesterday, some articles praise the work of the RCMP to the skies. I am as sceptical about them as I am of those that damn it to Hades.

My duty is to see that the RCMP meet the aspirations of Canadians, that it gives a truly honest and competent service.

[English]

ALLEGATIONS BY FORMER CORPORAL RAMSAY—  
REQUEST THAT MINISTER READ ARTICLE

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert):** Mr. Speaker, I am glad to see that the hon. gentleman has become a supporter of the RCMP and is no longer trying to remove the letters R.C. I ask him this: is there not some way in which he can find the time in which to read that very critical article. I know he is busy. We see him busily occupied all the time with other things. Can we hope that by tomorrow he will be able to secure the leisure time that will enable him, even without a reading course, to read this article which is so condemnatory of a police force which should not be attacked in that way.

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Solicitor General):** Mr. Speaker, first of all, I have the highest respect for royalty, as the right hon. member knows, I do not besmirch it at every turn. Second, as far as—

[English]

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**An hon. Member:** Tell us another one.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** I think the hon. gentleman should have an opportunity—

**Mr. Speaker:** May we have order, please. I am suggesting we should not have a debate. Perhaps the minister