

Inquiries of the Ministry

tries fishing on our continental shelf with a view to determining their attitude toward any action we may take to extend our fishing jurisdiction to cover our continental shelf?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, this is a very hypothetical question. As the hon. member knows, we have probably been more active than any other country, as well as more successful, in dealing in a practical way with the problems both of the territorial seas and the fisheries, and I give all credit to my colleague the Minister of Fisheries—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I shall discuss this matter at ten o'clock.

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PENSIONS**LOWERING OF AGE FOR ESCALATION OF PENSIONS OF RETIRED ARMED FORCES AND RCMP PERSONNEL**

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is of concern to three ministers, the Minister of National Defence, the Solicitor General in his capacity as the minister responsible for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and the President of the Treasury Board, but I shall direct it to the President of the Treasury Board. In view of the commitment made some time ago that something would be done about the matter, can the President of the Treasury Board say what progress is being made in making the necessary arrangements so that retired members of the armed forces and RCMP personnel will get their pensions escalated without having to wait until age 60?

• (11:30 a.m.)

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I cannot report any positive conclusions as yet. I think the hon. gentleman well appreciates that the scale of benefits and timing of both the police and national defence pensions are based on a rather different career concept than those for the ordinary public servants, and the application of all the rules which are appropriate to public service superannuation do not equally apply to the armed forces. This is the reconciliation we are trying to work out now.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, would the minister like to speak further on this matter some night next week at ten o'clock?

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NATIONAL DEFENCE**UNITED STATES HYDROFOIL PROJECT—RELATIONSHIP TO MOTHBALLING OF "BRAS D'OR" AND PRODUCTION-SHARING NEGOTIATIONS**

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Defence. It arises from reports that when the

basic defence production-sharing agreements with the United States were signed in June of 1963 there was a private agreement that a balance would be maintained over the long haul. My question flows from that and has to do with the award to Boeing recently by the United States government of a contract for \$5.6 million for the development of a hydrofoil for use by the U.S. navy and other NATO forces. Will the minister explain to the House whether there is any connection between this and the fact that we have now mothballed our own hydrofoil, the *Bras d'Or*, and whether it had anything to do with current negotiations in respect of defence production-sharing arrangements?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, I can say that it has nothing to do with the defence production-sharing agreement. No doubt the fact that the United States wanted to proceed with the development of a hydrofoil with retractable foils may have motivated them in not wishing to participate in the development of our hydrofoil, but this, of course, was a decision taken by them. I do not think there is a direct connection here in so far as the defence production-sharing agreement is concerned.

Mr. Forrestall: So that the record will be clear on this matter, is the minister aware or can he confirm that when the initial agreement was signed in June of 1963 there was appended to it a further document in which Canada agreed to keep a balance over the total period?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I would remind the hon. member that, as I pointed out in the House last week, the administration of this agreement and, indeed, its negotiation are not the responsibility of the Minister of National Defence. I will, however, draw the hon. member's question to the attention of my colleague who might like to advise the House on this point.

[Later:]

CANADA-U.S. PRODUCTION-SHARING—REQUEST FOR TABLING OF ANCILLARY AGREEMENT ON MAINTENANCE OF BALANCE

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question arises out of the question of the hon. member for Dartmouth-Halifax East. Will the minister table in the House the ancillary agreement in connection with joint defence expenditures which was made on June 7, 1963? It has never been tabled. It has been spoken of on a number of occasions, and it would be very helpful if it could be tabled now.

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, I would remind the right hon. gentleman, as I pointed out to the hon. member for Dartmouth-Halifax East, that the administration of this agreement is not within the administrative responsibility of the Minister of National Defence. I will, however, bring the suggestion to the attention of my colleague who is responsible for this.