

Hon. Flora MacDonald (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I realize the Hon. Member begins her question the way she does because of the envy of Members in that Party who want to sing in harmony. They have not been able to do that within their own group for some time.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Miss MacDonald: I would like to say that the main emphasis of this Government has been in the area of jobs, job creation, and in trying to bring more emphasis in that field. Although it has not been raised often by members of the Opposition, I think it is important to note that in the last month when the employment figures came down, it was shown for the first time since the recession had begun that between the months of January and February both the unemployment rate and the actual figures for unemployment had declined. This was the first time that that had taken place between the months of January and February since the recession began, and I think that is an important sign.

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CLERK OF PETITIONS' REPORT

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that the petitions presented by Hon. Members on Friday, March 15, 1985, meet the requirements of the Standing Orders as to form.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

PETITIONS

SEIZURE OF FOOD PRODUCTS

Mr. Ian Waddell (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition which states that recent actions of the Health Protection Branch have resulted in the seizure of certain food supplements, including amino acids and certain herbal products, that these products have been readily available for many years and that when the undersigned inquired as to the reasons for this action, they were advised that they had been declared new drugs and would not be permitted to be sold. In order to obtain these products the petitioners must buy them in the United States at considerable inconvenience and cost. Wherefore the petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to revoke the decision of the Health Protection Branch and return these products to the market-place without delay.

Order Paper Questions

GIFT OF WARPLANES TO TURKEY

Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition which is signed by hundreds of Canadians of Greek descent which states that the undersigned Canadians of Greek descent are very alarmed at the intentions of the Canadian Government to give 20 renovated fighter planes to Turkey and none to Greece. While there might be good reasons for Canada to support a NATO ally, Canada should not side with Turkey against Greece. Canada has a long tradition of fairness in world conflicts and should not get into a position of arming one side against the other.

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. Ron Stewart (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 55, 160 and 272.

[Text]

DND—TRANSFER OF DIRECTORATE OF PAY SERVICES

Question No. 55—**Mr. Howie:**

1. Will the Department of National Defence directorate of pay services be transferred to Chatham, New Brunswick and, if so, during what period and how many persons will be employed in Chatham by the directorate?
2. Will a building be constructed to house the directorate and, if so, on what date will the construction be (a) commenced (b) concluded?
3. What is the current status of this project and has it received Treasury Board approval?

Mr. Robert Wenman (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Defence): 1. The government's commitment to retain CFB Chatham as an air base, in addition to the Training Center for the Low Level Air Defence System, will result in CFB Chatham maintaining its present employment level without the need to transfer the DND Pay Services.

2 and 3. Not applicable.

CUTS IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS

Question No. 160—**Mr. Orlikow:**

Has the Department of Environment cut any projects in its science and technology programs in order to absorb the reduction in its expenditures required by the economic statement made by the Minister of Finance in the House on November 8, 1984 and, if so, what are they and what are the projected costs?

Hon. Suzanne Blais-Grenier (Minister of the Environment): Yes, see below.

Description	Costs	
	Person-Years	\$
1. Weather observations at Eddy Point, Nova Scotia	—	70,000
2. Weather observations at Bisset, Manitoba	—	50,000
3. Development of remote sensing techniques for weather observations	—	220,000
4. Historical research for new development in existing parks	3	90,000