

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

prepared by a committee of 14 at the request of the General Assembly of the United Nations and released by the Secretary General of that organization. In view of the terrible consequences of the use of such weaponry as indicated in the report, would the Prime Minister consider ceasing immediately the defence research activities in this field now carried on at Shirleys Bay and Suffield, Alberta?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** It might be well to remind the house that any use of this research would be merely for the purpose of defence. This being said, however, I should like to state that a few weeks ago I reported to the house that I asked that this question be reviewed by the government, so that we may have a better understanding of what is going on in this area in Canada. This review is not yet completed.

**Mr. Lewis:** I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact that the report of this committee of experts on the research into the alleged defensive measures is not likely to be very useful, and in view of the appeal of the Secretary General of the United Nations for a treaty banning the use of such weaponry, would the Prime Minister be prepared today to state the government's intention to support that appeal and to support any initiatives taken to arrive at an agreement on the use of these weapons.

**Mr. Trudeau:** Under the Geneva protocol these questions are already being discussed. There is a difference of opinion among the countries concerning the meaning of biological and bacteriological warfare and whether or not bacteriological warfare includes biological warfare. This is the point of contention among the signatories to the protocol. However, Canada's position has been, as the hon. member suggests, to favour a greater restriction of the use of such weaponry, and our representatives on the disarmament committee have been instructed to proceed accordingly.

**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS****BIOLOGICAL WARFARE—TRANSFER OF MATERIALS ACROSS CANADIAN TERRITORY**

**Mr. Lewis (York South):** Mr. Speaker, I have a further supplementary question which I wish to direct this time to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. On June 23 last I asked the minister to inform the house as to how the materials used in the research at Shirleys Bay and at Suffield, Alberta, got

there and how they were transported from one point in Canada to another, if that is where the material comes from, or from the United States to these points in Canada.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I do not remember exactly when the hon. member asked the question. My recollection, however, is that I had thought, at least to myself, that that question might be placed on the order paper.

**Mr. Lewis:** I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The minister said at that time that he would inquire into the matter. In fact, he said that he would have to take the question as notice. Perhaps he has some information which he can give us, without doing violence to the rules.

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, the answer I have is very simple, and that is that the Minister of National Defence will answer the question tomorrow.

**Mr. Lewis:** That is passing the germ.

[*Translation*]

**WATER RESOURCES****REQUEST FOR LEGISLATION ON HYDRAULIC DEVELOPMENT—EXPORT OF WATER TO U.S.**

**Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a question to the Prime Minister.

Can he tell the house if he intends to introduce at the next session a bill on Canada's water policy? If so, does he intend to consult the provinces on that matter before hand?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. I doubt that it is in order to ask the Prime Minister for information on the bills which may be introduced at the next session. I fear that if we allow this kind of question, we will unduly prolong the question period. Moreover, if the hon. member feels there is any urgency to his question, it might be considered at the time of adjournment.

**Mr. Laprise:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to rephrase my question and ask the Prime Minister whether the Canadian government was represented at the conference held in Banff, Alberta, last week, with respect to the export of water to the United States?