

Hon. Mr. PEARSON: There is no doubt that only a very small percentage of the people in Russia or Czechoslovakia hear these broadcasts directly. That is partly due to jamming and partly due to the danger to which they subject themselves when they try to listen; but it is also pretty certain that when one person does hear this information it gets around to others, and from the information we get from Washington and London where they have more opportunities for estimating the effect of broadcasting than we have, we consider it is worth doing.

Mr. BENIDICKSON: Well, facts were not very successfully presented to the United States Congress, to the effect that it was worth while, because if I am right they have reduced this year's appropriation for that purpose very considerably.

Hon. Mr. PEARSON: I am not sure but I think they increased the appropriation this year.

Mr. BENIDICKSON: I think it was reduced from \$96 million to \$10 million.

Mr. FLEMING: There was a debate on that within the last ten days reported in the press, but I do not remember whether it was in one of the Houses or in committee.

Mr. BENIDICKSON: My recollection goes back to sometime further than ten days, and it was in one of their committees, probably six weeks ago. I think that there was a reduction in their appropriation recommended from \$96 million to \$10 million or anyway about 90 per cent.

Mr. CROLL: You have been listening to too many Republican senators.

Hon. Mr. PEARSON: I remember that one of the objections made in Congress in connection with the Voice of America was to its control; it was not because it was not a good thing but only that they did not like the way the State Department was handling it.

Mr. STICK: Did I read your remarks correctly, Mr. Minister, where you said your department was responsible for the script but you did not censor it. Is there any censorship on scripts at all?

Hon. Mr. PEARSON: I hope I did not say that because if I did I would not be correct. I said we were not responsible for the script but we were responsible for the policy which would be carried out by those who wrote the scripts; the actual job of writing the script was the responsibility of the international service itself. I said we had an opportunity to read the scripts and check them and if we found they were departing from the policy we agreed upon we took the necessary action.

Mr. CROLL: I would like to know if there is a Voice of Russia beamed at us and are we jamming it? Can you answer that?

Hon. Mr. PEARSON: I would not mind answering it if I had the information.

Mr. CROLL: But is there a Voice of Russia beamed at us?

Hon. Mr. PEARSON: I do not think there is a Russian broadcast beamed to Canada.

Mr. FLEMING: But we do get Russian broadcasts. There is a daily broadcast in Russia and its reception is very good, so I am told, but the reception of Canadian broadcasts in that particular area is very poor, apparently due to geological features.

Mr. BENIDICKSON: Is there a Russian broadcast regularly beamed to Canada?

Hon. Mr. PEARSON: There is no especially beamed broadcast that I know of.

Mr. QUELCH: There is a Voice of Moscow; you can hear it in the Prairies at six o'clock every day.