

Ottawa *Citizen* of this very date, April 21, 1981, where Major General Claude Lafrance, a veteran of Korea and the last fighter pilot in the Canadian Armed Forces, has left his post to assume duties in the Department of the Secretary of State in the SX category, which I believe will provide him with remuneration in the range of \$60,000 to \$70,000 annually.

● (2215)

So that is one example of the failure of the pay scales to provide adequate remuneration even at those higher levels. What we have to consider is how the rates of pay provided for members of the Canadian Armed Forces compare with both the Public Service and the private sector. We could only hope that the minister would take this into account when he deals with the Treasury Board on the matter of armed forces salaries and that together they will provide a rate which allows persons to pursue a career in the Canadian Armed Forces in a manner which provides them with compensation equal or nearly equal to what they would earn in the private sector, and certainly equal to what they would earn in the public sector.

There are other problems which pertain to the Canadian Armed Forces and affect their morale just as much as the rate of pay. I have in mind the failure to properly equip, arm and provide facilities for the Canadian Armed Forces. In the air command we have moved finally to provide a new fighter plane, the CF-18 Hornet. In maritime command, we have advanced a destroyer-life extension program. There is a call for the development of the Canadian patrol frigate. In a mobile command, there is a program to replace the wheeled vehicles and to provide new artillery systems. I hope the government will pursue all of these programs along with an adequate wage policy because in the end, the defence of Canada is at the mercy of our armed forces personnel.

In peacetime, the plight of those members of the Canadian Armed Forces often presents real difficulty. In the last election campaign, at a time when the army of the Soviet Union was invading Afghanistan, at a time when the situation in the Middle East threatened world peace, all political parties were concerned with the plight of the Canadian Armed Forces. So I hope that with those two controversies put aside, we will continue to support our Canadian Armed Forces.

Mrs. Ursula Appolloni (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Defence): First of all, Mr. Speaker, I must point out that I am rather amused to find that the hon. member for Halifax West (Mr. Crosby) has asked for an increase in the presence of the hon. member for York-Peel (Mr. Stevens). As the hon. member for Halifax West has already mentioned, a pay increase for the forces was announced by the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Lamontagne) on April 1.

The increase averages 12 per cent on the over-all payroll over 12 months and comes to an average of 12.31 per cent for non-commissioned officers and 11.05 per cent for officers. This compares most favourably with the pay increase announced on November 2, 1979, by the former Conservative minister of

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national defence, and that increase has compounded to about 12.14 per cent over an 18-month period.

In various policy statements made during the 1960s, the Government of Canada adopted the concept of the "fair employer" with respect to the determination of rates of pay and terms and conditions of service for its employees. In order to give meaning to this concept for the military, the Treasury Board established a joint Treasury Board-Department of National Defence advisory group on military compensation in November, 1968, to advise on appropriate rates of pay. Recommendations emphasized that attention be directed to the areas of conditions of service and compensation to ensure that comparable benefits to those of the Public Service are given to the military.

Three factors are considered in establishing military pay rates: the economic increase; a benchmark for comparison with the public service; and the military factor, which comprises such elements as hours of work, particular career requirements, pensions, and so on.

In this recent pay raise, the economic factor was taken into full consideration. However, the military factor is still undergoing a more complete review which should be finished in the coming months and phased in at the next pay adjustment. This pay increase also took into full account the question of comparability with the public service which was raised by the hon. member in his question of March 24, and which forms a fundamental basis to the annual military pay review.

Comparability benchmarks have been developed where a specific military function could be identified as equivalent to other occupations. This involves over 70 job matches between military trades and Public Service occupations which are themselves routinely compared with their private sector equivalents.

So, in summary, Mr. Speaker, I can assure the hon. member that the government is paying its military personnel in a very equitable manner. However, I would add, on a personal note, that I believe that because of their dedication and professionalism, our military personnel deserve every red cent they get.

● (2220)

HEALTH—ADOPTION OF WORLD-WIDE CODE GOVERNING BABY FOOD MARKETING

Mr. Stanley Hudecki (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, on April 9, 1981, the question that I put before the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Miss Bégin) during the question period in the House of Commons, related to a marketing code which will be debated at the World Health Organization in May, 1981. The code is one that is recommended by the executive of the World Health Organization and concerns prohibition of improper marketing techniques of breast milk substitutes. The code deals with such techniques used by the infant formula industry as so-called educational advertising, distribution of free samples, using so-called milk nurses or mothercraft nurses or medical representatives as sales people.

These sales techniques have apparently been very effective over the years in promoting the use of infant formula instead