

Inquiries of the Ministry

to seek such information. I understand that the international committee of the Red Cross has endeavoured to obtain this kind of information with respect to its own consignments to North Viet Nam, so far without avail. I understand, however, that a representative of the Canadian Friends service committee was in Hanoi recently and did have an opportunity at that time to talk to representatives of the North Vietnamese Red Cross.

Mr. Woolliams: I wish to thank the Prime Minister for his answer. But in this case, if he would review the report I gave him, he will see that of the \$50,000 raised in Vancouver, 90 per cent of the money was handed over through Dr. Inglis to someone in Moscow for use in North Viet Nam, other than for the purchase of medical supplies and so on. Did the Prime Minister investigate this situation and, if so, what was the result?

Mr. Pearson: We do not know the details of the shipment. I understand it was medical supplies and that 90 per cent of the money used for this purpose did go to North Viet Nam.

Mr. R. W. Prittie (Burnaby-Richmond): May I direct a related question to the Prime Minister. On January 9 I asked the Secretary of State for External Affairs whether the Canadian government had received from the Canadian Quakers a request for aid in the provision of medical supplies to both North and South Viet Nam. Has such a request been received and, if so, what reply has been given?

Mr. Pearson: Perhaps I can answer that question, since it was addressed to me. I can inform the hon. member that such a request from the general secretary of the Canadian Friends service committee was received last month by an official of the external affairs department and was acknowledged at that time. The matter is now under consideration, and a substantive reply will be made to the general secretary of the committee in the very near future.

DRAFTING OF CANADIAN CITIZENS INTO U.S. ARMY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Reynold Rapp (Humboldt-Melfort-Tisdale): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs with reference to a previous question

[Mr. Pearson.]

I asked him about the drafting of young Canadians in the United States into the United States forces. What will be the position of the government with respect to these young Canadians who are drafted into the United States army if they stay in the United States?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I do not think it is really possible, unless I misunderstood it, to answer the question in the form in which it has been put. My hon. friend brought a particular case to my attention. We have been in touch with my hon. friend about it, and I am sure he would not want me to discuss that particular case on the floor of the house.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Why not?

Mr. Martin (Essex East): Because I think my hon. friend who put the question would not want to embarrass his constituent.

Mr. Diefenbaker: This is a Canadian who was picked up in the United States and forced into its army.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): My right hon. friend is wrong again.

Mr. Diefenbaker: This is what the minister denied the other day, and now he is wrong again.

ATLANTIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

CURTAILMENT OF PROJECTS RESULTING FROM STAFF SHORTAGES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. David MacDonald (Prince): My question is directed to the Minister of Transport and relates to a question I asked him two weeks ago in this house concerning the curtailment of certain projects by the Atlantic Development Board because of staff shortages. The minister said at that time he would look into this matter and report. Can he tell us now which projects have in fact been curtailed?

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): I had a document dealing with this subject and I hoped to use it to refresh my memory. Unfortunately it is in another spot. Perhaps the hon. member would not put me on the spot again until tomorrow.