

products should be released to RPC for further testing. No detained products were released to the market at this time.

Normal inspection processes were continuing at Star-Kist. Some production passed and some did not. The former Minister formed an independent review committee to advise him on the resolution of differences of opinion between Star-Kist and Fisheries inspectors on March 4, 1985, and also to advise him on how to dispose of Star-Kist products which were still detained in accordance with the Fish Inspection Regulations.

The independent review committee presented a summary report to him on April 24, 1985. On the basis of this report, and also taking into consideration the information given to him in the RPC report of February 11, 1985, he decided to release all product under detention to Star-Kist for whatever disposition it chose to make. His decision was formally communicated to the Department on April 29, 1985 and Inspection released the product to the company during the first week of May. At all times he had been fully assured by his inspection staff, and by other interested parties, that health and safety concerns did not exist for these products.

Adjournment Debate

All the products in question were placed under Star-Kist control from the first week of May. The former Minister understood that Star-Kist continued to work with RPC but that this was an arrangement between those two parties. This process obviously had nothing to do with his decision to release.

In the period since the decision to release detained Star-Kist products, the former Minister requested that an industry-government working group be convened to review in detail the inspection guidelines applying to canned tuna. That working group met twice this summer and revised guidelines have been agreed upon. These revised guidelines now apply to the inspection of all tuna products sold in Canada, whether produced domestically or imported from abroad, and will be reviewed again in January 1986.

[Translation]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The motion to adjourn the House is now deemed to have been adopted. Accordingly, this House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 2 p.m., pursuant to Standing Order 3(1).

The House adjourned at 6.30 p.m.
