

difficulties of the first question. Perhaps he might have a chance later to try a second time to rephrase the question. I have the impression it would be somewhat difficult to make that question acceptable within the rules of the House. The hon. member might like to rephrase the question. I want to be fair to him.

**Mr. Reilly:** Does the minister intend to bring into line the extra pay accorded to members of the armed forces serving in Viet Nam with the salary scale now paid to men in equivalent circumstances working for the Department of External Affairs?

**Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, I have stated in the House that members of the armed forces in Viet Nam receive foreign service pay of \$150 a month for single men and up to \$180 a month for married men in addition to regular pay and allowances. There are some differences in the payments made to personnel of the Department of External Affairs but we are still on the 60-day basis and these arrangements have not yet been finalized.

**Mr. Reilly:** Is any change in view in the circumstances of these military personnel which would bring their additional foreign service pay into line with that paid to External Affairs officials in the same circumstances?

**Mr. Richardson:** Mr. Speaker, I shall be discussing this with my colleague, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, and with the government.

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#### FINANCE

##### POSSIBLE IMPOSITION BY UNITED STATES OF IMPORT SURCHARGE IN LIGHT OF DOLLAR DIFFICULTIES— DISCUSSION WITH SECRETARY OF TREASURY

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance arising out of his statement that he had a telephone conversation with the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States this morning. In view of the fact it is obvious that the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce has not taken any special action with regard to this difficulty, may I ask whether the Minister of Finance discussed with the Secretary of the Treasury the question of any surtax that the United States might impose upon its trading partners and did the minister make any representations to him on this subject?

**Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, the Secretary of the Treasury and I agreed that the purpose of the conversation was to keep Canada informed on American intentions and that for the moment the substance of the conversation should remain confidential.

#### Oral Questions

#### PENITENTIARIES

##### KINGSTON—REQUEST FOR TABELING OF REPORT ON DISTURBANCE

**Mr. Sean O'Sullivan (Hamilton-Wentworth):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Solicitor General. As his department has had five months to study the report on the disturbance at Kingston penitentiary which occurred about two years ago, has the minister decided whether the report can now or will be made public? If so, when may we expect it? If not, will he inform us why?

**Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General):** Mr. Speaker, we hope to make an announcement on that report soon. I might add that I have only been looking at it for about two months.

**Mr. O'Sullivan:** Can the minister advise the House whether the report has been referred to penitentiary officials at Kingston with recommendations for action on the commission's findings?

**Mr. Allmand:** Not explicitly, Mr. Speaker, although on some points the penitentiary officials have already taken action, but not as a result of the report.

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#### PUBLIC SERVICE

##### RECONSIDERATION OF RAISING OR REMOVING CEILING ON ANNUAL ESCALATION OF PENSIONS

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the President of the Treasury Board. In view of the information placed on today's *Hansard* in response to my question No. 10 on the order paper that the credit balance in the supplementary retirement benefits account is growing by leaps and bounds, will the minister now reactivate consideration and discussion with respect to raising or removing the ceiling on the annual escalation of pensions of retired public servants and others who are in related categories?

**Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board):** Mr. Speaker, I have not seen the answer to which the hon. gentleman refers, but I have an idea that at the bottom of that answer is a note to the effect that the amounts in the account are those computed by the actuaries as being required to meet but no more, current and future obligations.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The minister must be referring to some other document because there is no such footnote on this one. Perhaps he will look at the matter and consider my question.