

Order Paper Questions

● (1500)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

PETITIONS

MR. FLIS—PATRIATION OF THE CONSTITUTION

Madam Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that the Clerk of the House has laid upon the Table the forty-second report of the Clerk of Petitions stating that he has examined the petition presented by the hon. member for Parkdale-High Park (Mr. Flis) and finds that it meets the requirements of the Standing Orders as to form.

* * *

NORTH AMERICAN AIR DEFENCE COMMAND

TABLING OF EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN CANADA AND UNITED STATES RESPECTING AEROSPACE AGREEMENT

Hon. Mark MacGuigan (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Madam Speaker, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 41(2), I wish to table in both official languages an exchange of notes between Canada and the United States constituting an agreement between our two governments to renew the North American Aerospace Defence Command NORAD agreement for a further five years. These notes were signed in Ottawa this morning by the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Lamontagne), myself and Secretary of State Haig.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

* * *

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. D. M. Collenette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, I wish to draw the attention of the House to the fact that the series of questions which will be answered today are questions put by the hon. member for Leeds-Grenville (Mr. Cossitt) and deal with the so-called Taschereau papers. The numbers are as follows: 29, 49, 50, 161, 163 and 1,498.

[Text]

TASCHEREAU PAPERS

Question No. 29—Mr. Cossitt:

1. What was the highest authority, including his or her job designation, who made the decision or participated therein, that Mr. Michael Pitfield should be ordered to return the Taschereau Papers to the Public Archives with instructions that availability to the public be delayed until 1986?

2. What are the names and job designations of all persons who examined the Taschereau Papers during the period of time they were in the Privy Council Office until they were returned in February 1978?

3. What are the names of all the members of the security committee of the cabinet and which ones participated in any way, directly or indirectly, with the decision in regard to the Taschereau Papers?

4. Will the government review whether or not the Taschereau Papers will be made public at an earlier date and, if not, for what reason?

Mr. D. M. Collenette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): 1. The Clerk of the Privy Council and Secretary to the Cabinet, within the terms of his office and after due consultation and reflection, ordered the return of the Taschereau Papers to the Public Archives with instructions that availability to the public be delayed until 1986.

2. Mr. P. A. Lemieux, Senior Secretariat Officer (Security Policy).

3. Not applicable; refer to 1. above.

4. Yes.

Question No. 49—Mr. Cossitt:

Were there any individuals mentioned in the Taschereau file on National Security that were then or thereafter or at any time since, cabinet ministers and, if so, what are their names and in what connection were they mentioned?

Mr. D. M. Collenette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): It would be improper to attempt to answer this question until a review of the transcript of the in camera hearings is concluded and a recommendation is made and agreed to by the government to make it public.

Question No. 50—Mr. Cossitt:

1. How many persons named in the Taschereau Papers on National Security were not prosecuted and who were they and what was the reason?

2. In consequence of the revelations made by Mr. Igor Gouzenko (a) how many individuals were prosecuted (b) who were they and what were the charges (c) what was the result in each case (d) to the knowledge of the government, where are these people now?

Mr. D. M. Collenette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): 1. Refer to reply to question No. 49 answered today.

2. (a), (b) and (c) Submitted is a copy of a notice which appears in the Gouzenko Commission record and lists those who were prosecuted, convicted, dismissed or had become fugitives.

(d) Whereabouts unknown.

Notice

The following is a list of those persons against whom charges arising out of this report have been laid and a statement showing the status of the proceedings taken as of December 31, 1946:—

Emma Woikin

Found guilty on the 12th day of April 1946, of offences under the Official Secrets Act and sentenced to two years and six months imprisonment.

Kathleen Mary Willsher

Found guilty on the 3rd day of May 1946, of an offence under the Official Secrets Act and sentenced to three years imprisonment.