

**Senator Frith:** "Our" meaning the Senate, or including the House of Commons?

REFERENDUM QUESTION—REQUEST FOR COPY OF  
TREASURY BOARD MEMO

**Hon. Gildas L. Molgat (Deputy Leader of the Opposition):** Honourable senators, I understand that a memo went out recently from the President of the Treasury Board, Mr. Loiselle, regarding the participation of civil servants in the referendum debate and issuing warnings to them. Can the minister provide us with a copy of that memo?

**Hon. Lowell Murray (Leader of the Government):** Honourable senators, I shall make inquiries.

UNITED NATIONS

PEACEKEEPING IN YUGOSLAVIA—EMERGENCY AID IN  
SOMALIA—COMPARISON OF CANADIAN  
CONTRIBUTIONS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Hon. Eymard G. Corbin:** Honourable senators, we heard on the news this week that the United Nations would like Canada to send an additional contingent of 1,200 men and women of the Canadian Armed Forces to the conflict area of former Yugoslavia. Has cabinet made a decision on that request?

● (1440)

**Hon. Lowell Murray (Leader of the Government):** No, honourable senators.

**Senator Corbin:** Recently, with respect to that same conflict, the view was expressed that there is—and I do not belittle the fact—a hard winter awaiting the citizens of the area, and therefore an appeal was made for extra help.

In the southern hemisphere there is the situation in Somalia, where, it has been said, as many as 1 million people risk starvation and death.

Is the Canadian effort to relieve hunger in Somalia as eager as the Canadian effort to help abate the conflict in former Yugoslavia? I am not belittling either of the efforts, but it seems to me that we have been lying a little too low with respect to Somalia, in view of the very real need there. I think the need there is much greater than it is in the war-torn zone of former Yugoslavia. Besides, who are we Canadians? Europe has some of the richest nations in the world. Are they doing their fair share in trying to abate that conflict? Instead of sending additional troops to that zone, should we not be focusing on the plight of the approximately 1 million Somalis who risk death?

**Senator Murray:** Honourable senators, perhaps my friend would permit me to go back to the first part of his question, relating to Yugoslavia. There has been no new decision taken by the government in this respect. There was a decision announced some time ago to send 1,200 additional troops to Bosnia. I think the honourable senator was aware of that, because it is a matter of public knowledge.

[Senator Murray.]

I may also say that 15 RCMP officers have been sent there to join 30 others who have been there since May. They will remain for eight months to work with local police forces to help the residents.

With regard to Somalia, we were among the very first countries to provide humanitarian aid. Further to that, we are at the forefront in providing troops in order to do what we can to ensure that the humanitarian aid gets through to the people for whom it is destined.

I can give the honourable senator the pertinent figures. Since January we have provided over \$18 million in emergency aid; we have pledged our fullest support to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for U.N. efforts to bring the fighting to an end and to bring relief to famine victims; we are providing up to 750 Canadian forces troops to protect humanitarian operations in one of the four zones for U.N. operations in Somalia.

Of course, as I think the honourable senator knows, we have also provided refuge to more than 11,000 Somalis who have fled from the war in their country.

**The Hon. the Acting Speaker:** I wish to advise honourable senators that the time for Question Period has expired.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

AN ACT TO AMEND CERTAIN ACTS IN  
RELATION TO PENSIONS

AND TO ENACT THE SPECIAL RETIREMENT  
ARRANGEMENTS ACT

AND THE PENSION BENEFITS DIVISION ACT

THIRD READING—DIVISION DEFERRED

On the Order:

Resuming the debate on the motion of the Honourable Senator Doody, seconded by the Honourable Senator Oliver, for the third reading of Bill C-55, to amend certain Acts in relation to pensions and to enact the Special Retirement Arrangements Act and the Pension Benefits Division Act.

**Hon. C. William Doody:** Honourable senators, yesterday, after Senator Frith spoke, I adjourned the debate, with the cooperation of my colleagues, to examine the text of Senator Frith's comments in order that I might be able to reply with some assurance and comfort that I knew exactly what he had said.

I do not have a great deal to add to the comments made by Senator Teed at second reading of this bill; however, there are a few things that I should like to emphasize.

The bill was never intended to cure all of the problems, real or perceived, with the pension plans that are the federal government's responsibility. From the outset, the government has