HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, November 14, 1977

The House met at 2 p.m.

• (1407)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

INFORMATION

ALLEGED WRONGFUL DENIAL OF RIGHT OF PEOPLE TO KNOW ABOUT URANIUM CARTEL REGULATIONS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order No. 43 on a matter of pressing and urgent necessity. I wish to move, seconded by the hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar (Mr. Hnatyshyn), if given unanimity, the following motion arising from a judgment of His Lordship, the Chief Justice of Ontario, Mr. Evans, concerning a regulation passed by the Energy Control Board and approved by order in council by the cabinet on September 23, 1976, which made it an offence, among other things, to discuss an unlawful uranium cartel which was agreed to be set up with the consent and support of the government of Canada.

Against the legality of the said regulation an application was made to the courts by the Leader of the Opposition and other members of this House. The application for relief was denied by the court.

Although parts of the said regulations have been altered recently, the principle of the judgment remains, that this government clandestinely approved of a regulation that denies parliamentary privilege and as well the rights of the people to know what is going on and denies freedom of the press and media, and in fact under said judgment it is apparent that what was done was within the power of the government.

Therefore, I move:

As this House considers the said regulation and the order in council to be totally unjustifiable and dangerous it is necessary to inform the people of the unlawful action and wrongdoing of the government which constitutes an arbitrary and perilous denial of the democratic rights of the Canadian people, and, for members of this House, a derogation of parliamentary principle.

Mr. Speaker: Presentation of such a motion requires unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

80025-521/2

NATIONAL DEFENCE

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT BY MINISTER ON POSSIBILITY OF DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. In view of the serious allegations regarding the maintenance of a domestic security network of informants and agents by the Canadian Armed Forces, which has allegedly enabled them to supply detailed reports of the activities of unions, and of other legal groups, to the federal government, I would move, seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles):

That this House urges the Minister of National Defence to make a statement on motions on whether domestic intelligence activities have been carried out by the Canadian Armed Forces and, if so, under whose authorization and for what purpose.

Mr. Speaker: This motion can be presented pursuant to Standing Order 43, only with the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

• (1412)

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

PROPOSED REFERENCE TO COMMITTEE OF ACTIVITIES OF SECURITY GROUPS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. In light of the disclosures in the media today clearly indicating interference and influence from the ministerial level in reference to the RCMP, which shows further ministerial irresponsibility and culpability; and in view of the undisputed fact that the conduct of security matters in Canada by the RCMP has been of the highest calibre before interventions by the Solicitor General's department and the setting up of the police and security planning and analysis branch of the same department, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Red Deer (Mr. Towers):

That the said security planning and analysis branch activities in every regard be referred to a special committee set up by this House with the right to call witnesses and obtain and subpoena documents.

Mr. Speaker: Presentation of such a motion for debate can be done only with the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?