

numerous occasions in the House and elsewhere that the vast majority of men serving in the forces are in support of his present plans. I quote from the *Victoria Colonist* of Friday, September 23rd.

The contention of the Minister of Defence, Mr. Hellyer, that opposition to his ideas of unification for the three branches of the armed services comes only from the brass, the senior serving and retired officers. The charge got the denial it deserved when he addressed the junior non-commissioned officers and men at the big Halifax Maritime Command base. He was booed and heckled and when he faced a press conference after three "closed" meetings with men of the three levels of rank he said he had not noticed any vocal opposition.

And a direct quote:

"I didn't hear it if there was any", he said. However, from officers and men came very different versions of these particular meetings.

Admiral, this refers to a meeting which the Minister had in Halifax on which he found occasion in the House, in reply to questions, to deny that he noticed any opposition to his meetings. Were you present at any of those meetings?

Rear Admiral LANDYMORE: No, sir.

Mr. FORRESTALL: Were you invited to be present?

Rear Admiral LANDYMORE: No, sir.

Mr. FORRESTALL: Do you have any knowledge of them?

Rear Admiral LANDYMORE: I have a very considerable knowledge of them.

Mr. FORRESTALL: Indeed, Admiral, without wasting the time of the Committee, you are completely familiar with every word that was spoken in that room?

Rear Admiral LANDYMORE: I have a record of every word that was spoken on all occasions on which the Minister spoke.

Mr. FORRESTALL: Yes. Is the statement: "I didn't hear it if there was any" in connection with whether or not there was any reaction to the Minister's presence there and certain statements he was making—

Mr. MACALUSO: Why do you not ask the Minister?

Mr. FORRESTALL: Is that statement "I didn't hear it if there was any"—

Rear Admiral LANDYMORE: I am sure he heard it when he spoke to the officers, Mr. Forrestall.

Mr. FORRESTALL: I beg your pardon.

Rear Admiral LANDYMORE: I am sure he could not have failed to hear it when he spoke to the officers.

Mr. FORRESTALL: So that statement then is not correct?

An hon. MEMBER: Do not put words into his mouth.

Mr. FORRESTALL: I am sorry. I did not mean to put words into your mouth. Your impression of the meeting from what you heard of it would leave you very much surprised indeed if the Minister heard something different.

Rear Admiral LANDYMORE: That is correct.