

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

statement to which reference was made in the broadcast. What was the basis on which anyone with any knowledge of the responsibility which rests on the friends of NATO would suggest that there is to be a rotation of forces every 60 days? What was the statement in that regard?

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** I listened to the broadcast this morning, and my recollection is that it said nothing about the suggestion which was made by way of a question put to me by the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** No, he was not concerned in this. It was the minister.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** The broadcast this morning referred to my statement about the limited character of NATO itself and the need for United Nations participation in its operations. With regard to the question the right hon. gentleman has asked, I will state what was said yesterday in the committee.

As has been stated many times, a number of ways of effecting improvements and economies are naturally being examined by the departments concerned as part of the adjustment necessitated by the French government's decision. There are many possibilities, but not all of them will prove practicable and desirable in the light of our responsibilities in the alliance. The suggestions made by the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre yesterday fall within the area of possibilities that will receive consideration, but I would regard them as extremely unlikely to be implemented.

**Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West):** I should like to direct a supplementary question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. While he is considering this most important matter will he give consideration to the policy of the New Democratic party in this respect?

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** No, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs whether the significant changes that have taken place in Europe will induce Canada to advocate appropriate changes in NATO strategy and in Canada's contribution to NATO.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** Well, Mr. Speaker, as my hon. friend well knows, that is the kind of question that cannot be answered on orders of the day. We discussed

[Mr. Diefenbaker.]

that question in part yesterday, and we will have a further opportunity to do so when we give it the attention it deserves.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** As a supplementary question, just for the benefit of those of us who have not got the latest revised version of the N.D.P. platform in this regard, would the minister let us know what it is?

**Mr. Raymond Langlois (Mégantic):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs whether, following this change in the structure of NATO and in the event of extra expense being placed on Canada, France has indicated any intention to defray part of this extra expense.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** Well, as I said yesterday in the committee—and I think my hon. friend was present—these matters are now being studied by the French and Canadian governments. No final decisions have been made. Negotiations have not yet begun.

**Mr. Langlois (Mégantic):** As a further supplementary question, has a final date been set for ending these discussions or is that left open?

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** The French government has given a terminal date by which time an endeavour will be made to deal with the questions involved. If we cannot conclude the negotiations by April 1, 1967, I would hope we would be given an extension of time.

CANADIAN CITIZENS REQUESTED TO REPORT FOR U.S. SERVICE

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. T. C. Douglas (Burnaby-Coquitlam):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. In view of the case of Glyn Briscoe of Port Moody, B.C., which has had a good deal of press coverage, and in view of other cases which have come to my attention and that of other hon. members, of persons who appear to be Canadian citizens being called up by the United States authorities to report for selective service, is the government planning to make any statement to clarify the position of Canadian citizens and protect them from any embarrassment in the event that they should visit the United States at any time?

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** As my hon. friend knows, Mr. Speaker, we