

2. Have any enemy aliens been enlisted in the said forces since the outbreak of war? If so, how many?

3. Have any enemy alien members of the Canadian armed forces been sent out of Canada since their enlistment? If so, how many and to where?

4. How many of such persons have been discharged from the armed forces since the outbreak of the present war?

5. Of those discharged, how many were discharged because of the fact that they were enemy aliens, and how many for other reasons?

6. What was the date of enlistment and date of discharge of each enemy alien who was enlisted and subsequently discharged?

Mr. SHAW:

1. Did Hans Ludwig Backs, an enemy alien, apply for enlistment in the Canadian army at Calgary, between January and April, 1942?

2. If so, who was the officer at Calgary who took Mr. Back's application?

3. Was this application sent to Ottawa for consideration?

4. Was it approved? If so, what is the name of the official who approved same?

5. Upon what date was Mr. Backs enlisted in the Canadian active army?

6. Where did he take his basic training?

7. Was he trained at the Trade Training School, London, Ontario? If so, for what period of time?

8. Has this man been discharged from the army?

9. If so, upon what date and for what reason?

Mr. SHAW:

1. Was Bernard Schaght, an enemy alien, enlisted in the Canadian army in Calgary in 1940 or 1941?

2. If so, who approved of his application for enlistment?

3. What period of training was he given in Canada?

4. Was he sent out of Canada? If so, where was he sent and when?

5. Has he been discharged from the army?

6. If so, when and for what reason?

Mr. POWER: Mr. Speaker, with respect to these three questions, I might make the following reply, first with regard to the security difficulties which might arise, and secondly with regard to the physical difficulties in preparing the answers. First with regard to the security difficulties, this answer comes to me from the director of military intelligence, as follows:

Answers to these questions would inform the enemy the number of men in the army, both here and overseas, who probably have relatives in enemy countries. This creates a situation where such relatives might be made the object of enemy vengeance. This is unfair to the men themselves.

If such men are taken prisoners, they are liable to be shot forthwith, as traitors to their country of origin.

The misinterpretation which could be placed on this information by other members of the

army could lead to mistrust and suspicion of men possessing Germanic names, with consequent impairment of efficiency.

It is considered that for security reasons the information requested should not be disclosed.

Secondly, with regard to physical difficulties, the information is as follows:

1. Number who have applied for enlistment unknown as recruiting officers do not record or report particulars of personnel turned away or rejected.

2. Yes. Number unknown—see footnote.

3. No known enemy aliens have been sent out of Canada—but see footnote.

4. Numbers unknown but all are included in group of approximately 1,800 persons who have been discharged because their services were no longer required. Exact figures can only be obtained by examining all files of this group. Names of individuals cannot be disclosed in interests of security.

5. Answered by 4.

6. Answered by 4.

Footnote

Policy is not to enlist or call up enemy aliens but some nationals of countries now at war against the allied nations were enlisted or called owing to

(i) failure to disclose correct nationality;

(ii) enlistment or call up prior to the entry of their country into the war.

No known enemy aliens have been sent out of Canada.

Mr. SHAW: Mr. Speaker, might I point out in connection with the first of these three questions that I have made only reference to numbers. As to the statement now made by the minister, one answer is not correct inasmuch as certain enemy aliens have been sent out of the country, Germans who enlisted after their country became involved in war. I should like to have that corrected if possible.

Mr. POWER: I was not following my hon. friend and did not understand what he said, but I gathered he said that one answer was not correct. I should be glad to discuss that with him. These were the replies which came to me from the department, and I have every reason to believe they are accurate.

Mr. GRAYDON: He did not ask for names, only numbers.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is the question answered?

Mr. POWER: I think the question should be considered as answered, but I should be glad to discuss it with the hon. member, and if he wishes, another question can be put on the order paper.