

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, December 8, 1977

The House met at 2 p.m.

● (1407)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CONDEMNATION OF SOVIET UNION FOR IMPRISONMENT OF ANATOLY SHCHARANSKY—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Walter Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. My motion concerns the case of Anatoly Shcharansky, a citizen of the Soviet Union who has been held in a prison without trial in that country for almost nine months, because authorities allege that he was an agent for the United States Central Intelligence Agency. In view of the Prime Minister's refusal to take a strong stand in denouncing the government of the Soviet Union, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Edmonton Centre (Mr. Paproski):

That this House strongly condemns the government of the Soviet Union for violating the provisions of the Helsinki Accord in its imprisonment of Anatoly Shcharansky. This House further condemns the Prime Minister and his government for failing to show more concern for the rights of individuals in countries like the Soviet Union.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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VETERANS AFFAIRS

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF DECISION NOT TO INCREASE BASIC DISABILITY PENSION—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, because the matter is urgent I ask leave, under Standing Order 43, seconded by the hon. member for Timiskaming (Mr. Peters), to move:

That this House calls on the Minister of Veterans Affairs to take back to cabinet the question of restoring the basic rate of the war disability pension to the level of the take home pay of the five categories of federal public servants so

designated in 1973, it being the view of this House that good faith calls for such restoration to take place without further delay.

Mr. Speaker: Presentation of such a motion for debate pursuant to Standing Order 43 requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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NATIONAL DEFENCE

ALLEGED EMBEZZLEMENT OF FUNDS AT OTTAWA NORTH BASE—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Tom Cossitt (Leeds): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity under the provisions of Standing Order 43. It concerns the fact that Department of National Defence auditors are presently engaged in a top secret and classified investigation of alleged embezzlement of public funds of Canadian Forces Base Ottawa North, formerly Rockcliffe, such information having come into my possession and subsequently confirmed to me today by the base commander and the office of the Minister of National Defence. Therefore, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Elgin (Mr. Wise):

That the House be advised of full details of what has transpired, specifically including whether or not reports are correct that upwards of a quarter of a million dollars has already been found to be involved, and finally, that the House be assured that where necessary charges will be laid in a civilian court, rather than the matter being in any way hushed up by courts martial under military jurisdiction.

Mr. Speaker: Standing Order 43 requires, for the presentation of such a motion for discussion, unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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THE MINISTRY

COMMENT ON POSITION TAKEN BY INDUSTRY MINISTER ON USE OF GOVERNMENT AIRCRAFT—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. John C. Crosbie (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity under the provisions of Standing Order 43. In view of the fact that the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce moved a motion under Standing Order 43, as reported in *Hansard* at page