

Questions

CANADIAN FORCES TRAINING BASE,
RIVERS, MAN.Question No. 2,477—**Mr. Mandziuk:**

1. What are the future plans for the Canadian forces training base at Rivers, Manitoba?
2. If it is the intention to close this base, on what date will it be closed?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of National Defence): 1 and 2. As was stated in the white paper 1964, the aim of the reorganization of the Canadian forces is the achievement of increased efficiency and economy based upon the overall national interest. The proper positioning and grouping of activities and forces, and their amalgamation where practical, is now under study, and it is anticipated that this study will extend over a considerable time. In any event no major bases, including Rivers, will be closed out during 1967. Of course this does not preclude the possibility of moving units or activities from one base to another. If, and when, a decision is taken to close out a specific base the maximum possible advance information will be provided to those who are directly affected.

GASPE CONSTITUENCY—REMOVAL FROM
OFFICE OF F. R. SAMSQuestion No. 2,495—**Mr. Keays:**

1. With reference to the answer to question No. 2,204, was Mr. Frederick R. Sams, Gaspé, P.Q. removed from office for any of the following reasons (a) has attained the age of sixty-five years (b) ceases to reside in his electoral district (c) is incapable, by reason of illness, physical or mental infirmity or otherwise, of satisfactorily performing his duties under the Canada Elections Act (d) has failed to discharge competently his duties, or any thereof, under this Act, or (e) has, at any time after his appointment, been guilty of political partisan conduct, whether or not in the course of performance of his duties under this Act?

2. If not, why was he removed?

[Translation]

Mr. Albert Béchard (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State): 1. Mr. Frederick R. Sams is still the returning officer for the present electoral district of Gaspé. Hence, he has not been relieved of his duties; (a) not applicable; (b) not applicable; (c) not applicable; (d) not applicable; (e) not applicable.

2. The Elections Act requires that a returning officer be named by the governor general in council for each electoral district. However, as the limits of the present electoral district of Gaspé have been modified,

[Mr. Sharp.]

under the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act (13 Elizabeth II, chapter 31), a returning officer was required for this new electoral district and Mr. Ludger Gagné was duly appointed.

[English]

MISSIONS ORGANIZED BY TRADE
DEPARTMENTQuestion No. 2,523—**Mr. Walker:**

How many trade missions have been organized by the Department of Trade and Commerce during the past year, and how many are planned during the current year?

Mr. Jean-Charles Cantin (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Trade and Commerce): The department's trade missions program for fiscal year 1966/67 (April 1-March 31) now includes 28 missions, of which 13 were outgoing and 15 incoming. Thirty-three missions, including 14 outgoing and 19 incoming, are presently planned for the 1967/68 program.

TRADE

FRUIT—REQUEST FOR TARIFF ON IMPORTS
FROM U.S.

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Michael Starr (Ontario): Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a question to the right hon. Prime Minister. In view of the statement made by the secretary manager of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association, has it been brought to the attention of the Department of National Revenue that Ontario fruit growers are being adversely affected by large scale imports of processed fruit and is the government considering the imposition of a tariff on fruit imported from the United States?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I would like to check but it is my impression that I received a communication about this matter within the last few days. I will be glad to look into it. May I also say that this matter has been brought to my attention by one or two hon. members on this side of the house.

Mr. Starr: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of what the Prime Minister said last fall in Hamilton, namely that the situation was being considered, is any action being planned to provide relief to Ontario fruit growers?

Mr. Pearson: I will be glad to look into the matter and answer the hon. member's question as soon as I can.