

*Order Paper Questions***Question No. 1,272—Mr. Cossitt:**

Did Mr. Michael Pitfield, Clerk of the Privy Council and secretary to the cabinet, state in April, 1980, that he received \$107,800 when he left his position following the May 22, 1979, election and, if so, to the knowledge of the government was any of this placed in a government retirement fund and, if so (a) what was the amount (b) will this be withdrawn and returned to the Receiver General to compensate the taxpayer for the fact that he was only absent from the job for eight months?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** See reply to question 672 answered today. The specifics requested in (a) and (b) are of a personal nature.

## DORCHESTER PENITENTIARY DEMONSTRATION

**Question No. 1,586—Mr. Howie:**

1. Was it necessary for guards to fire a shot to break up a demonstration at Dorchester Penitentiary, New Brunswick, in the month of June 1980, because the demonstration began to shape up as an escape attempt?
2. In the same month, was there a hostage taking incident at the penitentiary?
3. What was the reason for the demonstration and the hostage taking?

**Hon. Bob Kaplan (Solicitor General):**

1. At 20.00 hours on June 27, 1980, approximately 105 inmates were in the gymnasium at Dorchester penitentiary, and refused to return to their cells when ordered to do so. During the disturbance the inmates began destroying property and furniture, as well as throwing dangerous objects at the correctional officers. The correctional officers believed that the inmates were going to attempt to break out of the gymnasium and either smash the institution or attempt a mass escape. Subsequently, numerous warning shots were fired from shot-guns to keep inmates away from the barriers through which they might escape, and to keep the inmates from throwing dangerous objects at the correctional officers. Officers were told to aim high and most of the shots struck the side of the building at about the roof-line. A few shots penetrated through the upper parts of windows and hit fluorescent fixtures which had already been smashed by the inmates. It was learned that one staff member fired three shots from a rifle through one of the windows. He was disciplined for this act. An inquiry by the Inspector General of the Correctional Service of Canada into this incident concluded that it had not been necessary to fire so many warning shots. In retrospect, it was found that the disturbance was not a planned attempt to escape.

2. Yes, on May 31, 1980, two inmates took one correctional officer hostage. This hostage incident ended June 1, 1980.
3. Disturbance June 27, 1980:

The incident was sparked when a small group of inmates under the influence of "homemade brew" made their way to the gymnasium and began to destroy property and incite other inmates to participate in the disturbance.

**Hostage-taking may 31, 1980—June 1, 1980:**

The hostage-taking incident was attributed to two factors: (i) the restriction of the recreational privileges at the institution, and (ii) the closure of the coffee shop in the gymnasium.

The recreational privileges had been restricted as a consequence of difficulties experienced at the institution at the time. The coffee shop could not be made available to the inmates because the gymnasium was undergoing renovations.

The demands of the hostage-takers were: (a) that the coffee shop in the gymnasium be reopened, (b) the return of full recreational privileges, (c) an institutional two-way radio.

The demands were not met as the normal policy and practice of the Correctional Service of Canada is that no agreement which represents an ultimate benefit to the hostage-taker or takers be permitted in hostage negotiations.

## VISIT TO BONN—PRIME MINISTER AND MR. PITFIELD

**Question No. 1,684—Mr. Cossitt:**

Did the Prime Minister and Mr. Michael Pitfield visit Bonn, Germany and other countries during the summer of 1978 and, if so, on what dates and for what purpose, in each case?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Yes. The dates and purpose of official visit were: July 14-July 21—Germany, Bonn Economic Summit and official visit to the Federal Republic of Germany.

## MR. MICHAEL PITFIELD

**Question No. 1,685—Mr. Cossitt:**

1. Did Mr. Michael Pitfield, Clerk of the Privy Council and secretary to the cabinet, attend the Commonwealth Conference of Cabinet Secretaries in Cyprus during 1980 and, if so, on what date was it decided that he would attend and on what date did he accept the invitation?
2. Did the Prime Minister agree to appear before the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates and, if so (a) on what date (b) did the Prime Minister agree after Mr. Pitfield had made arrangements to go to Cyprus and, if so, for what reason was the Prime Minister's appearance not delayed until Mr. Pitfield could join him?
3. What are all the details of all the work done by Mr. Pitfield while in Cyprus and what was the advantage of his trip to the people of Canada?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):**

1. Yes. Mr. Pitfield's attendance was decided when he was appointed by the governor in council on March 11, 1980, to be Clerk of the Privy Council and Secretary to the Cabinet. His attendance was confirmed in discussions with the Commonwealth Secretariat in London on June 27, 1980.

2. The clerk of the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates was tentatively informed approximately two weeks before the Prime Minister's appearance on November 4, 1980, that the Prime Minister would appear. The date of his appearance could not be confirmed until October 31. The appearance could not be delayed because under House order the committee was obligated to make its report on the Main Estimates to the House of Commons by November 10, 1980, and Mr. Pitfield could not return to Ottawa before November 11 at the earliest.

3. Mr. Pitfield was head of the Canadian delegation. The Commonwealth is an important element of Canadian foreign policy and the senior officials meeting is the principal venue