

I refer now to the bill to which you drew our attention. Clause 17, which appears on page 2 of the bill, states:

17. (1) In an emergency, or if considered desirable in consequence of any action undertaken by Canada pursuant to any international arrangement for collective defence entered into by Canada, the Governor in Council may establish and authorize the maintenance of a component of the Canadian Forces, referred to in this Act as the special force, consisting of

(a) officers and men of the regular force who are placed in the special force under conditions prescribed in regulations;—

You may have studied that, Admiral Landymore. I cannot at the moment see that that separates any one of the components, the navy people from army people or from air people. The special force may be comprised of any members of the Canadian forces that the Minister wishes to put into that special force. Can you read any other meaning out of it.

Rear Admiral LANDYMORE: No, sir; I read that meeting out of it.

Mr. CHURCHILL: This is clause 28 on page 7, to which you drew our attention.

28. (1) An officer or man may be attached or seconded to the armed forces of any state,—

This is a new addition to the act. In subclause (2) it says:

(2) An officer or man of the armed forces of any state may be attached or seconded to the Canadian Forces—

I looked at this several weeks ago and I reached the conclusion that you came to in your presentation to us, that this gives unlimited authority to the Minister to second and attach our armed forces to any state, or second and attach the armed forces of any other state to Canadian forces. This means that Canadian forces could be employed as mercenaries abroad in the pay of a foreign state; mercenaries of a foreign state could be employed within the Canadian forces, and all of this at the whim of the Minister. Did you reach any other conclusion?

Rear Admiral LANDYMORE: No; that is the conclusion I reached.

Mr. CHURCHILL: Those are all the questions I have, Mr. Chairman, unless I hear someone make an unfounded statement in the near future.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Forrestall is next. I am sure that you will not hear any unfounded statements from him.

Mr. FORRESTALL: Admiral, I also drew an inference from section 28 that disturbed me a little. I am sure that the United States would be most concerned about our inability to meet certain commitments and, in the absence of our being effectively able to do so could indeed step in and, if necessary, right into the present infrastructure of our Maritime Command. Is that theoretically possible? Is that your understanding of that section.

Rear Admiral LANDYMORE: I would see nothing under that section to prevent that.

Mr. FORRESTALL: Admiral, I wanted to take your mind back and deal with one other point, again for clarification. We have been told by the Minister on