

*Inquiries of the Ministry***NATIONAL DEFENCE**

LA MACAZA, QUE.—TREATMENT OF PEACE  
DEMONSTRATORS BY R.C.A.F. POLICE

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. William Dean Howe (Hamilton South):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to redirect a question to the Associate Minister of National Defence. Is the minister now in a position to answer the question I asked yesterday regarding the actions of the R.C.A.F. police at La Macaza?

**Hon. Lucien Cardin (Associate Minister of National Defence):** Yes, Mr. Speaker, and I want to thank the hon. member for having sent me a copy of the newspaper article on which he apparently based his question.

I have had an opportunity to get a report on the allegations contained in the news article, and I can inform the hon. member that the allegations are false. The demonstrators attempted to block the main entrance to R.C.A.F. station La Macaza and, in order to allow vehicles to enter the station, some of these demonstrators, having refused to permit free passage of the vehicles, were removed by R.C.A.F. personnel, with a minimum of force, to the side of the road. I understand the R.C.A.F. personnel involved showed great patience and restraint in carrying out their duty, and under the circumstances I do not feel that an apology is necessary.

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON REORGANIZATION  
OF MILITIA

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Gordon Churchill (Winnipeg South Centre):** I should like to ask the Associate Minister of National Defence whether he is prepared to make a statement to the house concerning the proposed reorganization of the Canadian militia. Will the minister indicate to the house what units of the Canadian militia are to be discontinued?

**Hon. Lucien Cardin (Associate Minister of National Defence):** It was made clear, Mr. Speaker, both to the house and to the committee, that the department is now studying the reorganization of the militia and that early in October a full statement will be made on that subject.

**Mr. Churchill:** Mr. Speaker, as a supplementary question could I ask the Associate Minister of National Defence to inform the house whether the Winnipeg Rifles will be continued in the militia, or will it be one of the battalions which are to be disbanded?

**Mr. Cardin:** Mr. Speaker, I do not think I should start going over the list of the militia units which are to be retained and those which are to be withdrawn. I think the best thing to do is to wait until I can make a complete statement on this matter in October.

**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

INDIA—INQUIRY AS TO INCREASED FOOD SHIP-  
MENTS FROM CANADA

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. H. A. Olson (Medicine Hat):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce. Yesterday the United States department of agriculture announced it will be sending a team of technicians to India to assist in stepping up what they call their food for peace program, to reach delivery of 600,000 tons per month to that country. In view of the fact that on several occasions the minister has announced that Canada intends to increase her foreign aid contribution to something like \$40 million a year, is he prepared to make an announcement soon since there is obviously an urgent need for increased food shipments to that part of the world?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, the government has already announced a very substantial increase in shipments of food under our aid program. I think this announcement was made either by the Secretary of State for External Affairs or myself, or by both of us. We have been in touch with the Indian authorities, and we have made it quite clear that if, for example, some additional shipments of grain from Canada would be helpful in this emergency we would be happy to supply them.

**Mr. T. C. Douglas (Burnaby-Coquitlam):** As a supplementary question, if any assistance is given to India would this be in addition to the commitments we have already made under the Colombo plan?

**Mr. Sharp:** Yes, Mr. Speaker. Shipments under the Colombo plan are now proceeding, and what we are talking about is additional shipments if the government of India requests them. I did not want to suggest in anything I said that India would necessarily ask for it. To date the Indian government has made no request. But we are in touch to make sure that if there is any way in which we can be helpful we stand ready to be helpful.