

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. B. Alasdair Graham (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, with leave of the Senate, and notwithstanding rule 58(1)(h), I move:

That when the Senate adjourns today, it do stand adjourned until Wednesday, October 4, 1995 at one-thirty o'clock in the afternoon.

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, is leave granted?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

CORRECTIONS AND CONDITIONAL RELEASE ACT CRIMINAL CODE CRIMINAL RECORDS ACT PRISONS AND REFORMATORIES ACT TRANSFER OF OFFENDERS ACT

BILL TO AMEND—FIRST READING

The Hon. the Speaker informed the Senate that a message had been received from the House of Commons with Bill C-45, to amend the Corrections and Conditional Release Act, the Criminal Code, the Criminal Records Act, the Prisons and Reformatories Act and the Transfer of Offenders Act.

Bill read first time.

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the second time?

On motion of Senator Graham, bill placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading on Thursday, October 5, 1995.

INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

SPECIAL SESSION OF INTER-PARLIAMENTARY COUNCIL ON
FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF CREATION OF UNITED
NATIONS—REPORT OF CANADIAN GROUP TABLED

Hon. Peter Bosa: Honourable senators, I have the honour to table the report of the Canadian Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union to the Special Session of the Inter-Parliamentary Council on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the creation of the United Nations, held in New York, New York, from August 30 to September 21, 1995.

CANADIAN NATO PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION

REPORT OF ANNUAL COMMITTEE MEETING IN NORTH AMERICA

Hon. Bill Rompkey: Honourable senators, I have the honour to table the eighth report of the Canadian NATO Parliamentary Association which deals with the North Atlantic Assembly Annual Committee Meeting in North America, held in Ottawa and Washington from June 11 to 16, 1995.

[Translation]

THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

SPECIAL SESSION OF INTER-PARLIAMENTARY COUNCIL ON
FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF CREATION OF UNITED
NATIONS—NOTICE OF INQUIRY

Hon. Peter Bosa: Honourable senators, I give notice that on Tuesday, October 24, 1995, I will call the attention of the Senate to the special session of the Inter-Parliamentary Council on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, which was held in New York on August 31 and September 1, 1995.

[English]

QUESTION PERIOD

NATIONAL DEFENCE

DISBANDMENT OF CANADIAN AIRBORNE
REGIMENT—DIFFERENCE OF OPINION BETWEEN MINISTER
AND CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Hon. Gerry St. Germain: Honourable senators, I should like to take this opportunity to welcome the new senators, despite the fact that some of them may have left the chamber.

To Senator Rompkey, who comes from the other place, I was never really at ease in this place until your arrival here today. I used to feel that there might be a tinge of patronage in my appointment. However, your appointment here dispels that thought completely. I welcome you, and I look forward to working with you. It is nice to see you here.

Honourable senators, my question is to the Leader of the Government in the Senate and it relates to the shameful decision to disband the Canadian Airborne Regiment against the wishes of the Chief of Defence Staff because of the misbehaviour of a few.

Is there truly a difference of opinion as between the Minister of National Defence and the Chief of Defence Staff regarding matters of disbandment, promotions and the general management of the military?

Hon. Joyce Fairbairn (Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, as Honourable Senator St. Germain would know, the decision to disband the regiment was made some time ago. That decision took into account all the circumstances about which we have heard a great deal, and resulted in the public inquiry which began its hearings this week. That decision has been accepted by both parties.

Senator St. Germain: Honourable senators, in spite of her lack of military experience — and not many of us here have had that privilege — the Leader of the Government in the Senate must realize that the undermining of the morale of our armed forces will be horrendous if the minister and the Chief of Defence Staff square off on opposite sides of an issue such as the disbanding of the regiment, the promotion aspect, and any other aspects of managing our forces.