

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, May 10, 1960

The house met at 2.30 p.m.

STANDING ORDERS

CONCURRENCE IN THIRD AND FOURTH REPORTS OF
STANDING COMMITTEE

Miss Margaret Aitken (York-Humber) presented the third and fourth reports of the standing committee on standing orders, and moved that the reports be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

AIR TRANSPORT

AUSTRALIA—STATEMENT ON DISCUSSIONS
RESPECTING AGREEMENT

Hon. George H. Hees (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, during the past week civil aviation officials of Australia and Canada have been discussing in Ottawa arrangements for air transport services between the two countries. The existing arrangements were settled under a bilateral air agreement of 1946, but both countries felt these arrangements needed adjustment to meet the requirements of Canada-Australia air travellers in the jet age. Qantas already operates Boeing jets on the route to Vancouver, and Canadian Pacific Air Lines is to take delivery of its Douglas DC-8 jets later this year.

Both delegations agreed that there was a need for the closest possible co-operation between Canada and Australia, two leading members of the commonwealth, in the highly important field of international civil aviation. It was agreed that as a first step toward this objective the air carriers concerned, Canadian Pacific Air Lines and Qantas Empire Airways, should consult on mutual ways and means of providing, on a fully co-operative basis, efficient jet air services for Canadian and Australian air travellers. The air lines were instructed to report the result of their talks to their respective governments, which would then arrange for further official talks.

The official delegation discussions in Ottawa took place in an atmosphere of great cordiality, and both sides expressed full satisfaction with the progress made.

NATIONAL DEFENCE

FLIGHTS OF FOREIGN PLANES OVER
CANADIAN TERRITORY

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Lionel Chevrier (Laurier): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of National Defence. In view of the

alarming report which was made by a respected reporter for the *Ottawa Journal* last evening entitled "Believe Red Spies Fly Over Canada", which in effect states that Russian flights over the Arctic are assumed to have kept an eye on northern development, including the D.E.W. line, can the minister say whether this is a fact and has he any comment to make thereon?

Hon. G. R. Pearkes (Minister of National Defence): A very similar question was answered yesterday by the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Green). On the D.E.W. line there have been from time to time unknowns, but there has never been a case where it has been possible to confirm that any of those unknowns has been a Russian aircraft.

[Later:]

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Trinity): I wish to address a question to the Minister of National Defence with respect to these unidentified planes which have been sighted over northern Canada. I wonder if the minister could tell us by what means we attempt to identify them?

Mr. Pearkes: By means of the radar warning system.

Mr. Hellyer: A supplementary question to the Minister of National Defence. In view of the fact that radar equipment cannot distinguish between friend and foe, will the minister tell us whether we have any planes or rockets capable of making an identification at altitudes of 50,000 feet or more?

Mr. Pearkes: Canada has no planes or rockets capable of detecting aircraft flying over the Arctic ocean or the extreme north of Canada. Of course the radar operators check with the flight plans which have been filed.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

U.S. PLANES OVER RUSSIA—REPRESENTATIONS
TO WASHINGTON

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Hazen Argue (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs arising out of the regrettable flight of a United States plane over Soviet territory and the disturbing report in this morning's *Globe and Mail* that similar flights are going on even now, before the summit meeting. Can