

Mr. Murphy: Madam Speaker, the minister obviously did not hear the question, probably because it was not addressed to him. I specifically asked the Minister of Labour whether the government would allow labour participation on any joint board, if it was decided to have one.

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PROTECTION FOR WORKERS

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Madam Speaker, my supplementary question relates to the same matter. It has been said by some federal officials that any inquiry will take over a year to complete. In the meantime will the minister allow the workers to be protected under Part IV of the Canada Labour Code so that they will at least have some protection?

Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Minister of Labour): Madam Speaker, if the hon. member had been here last week he would have heard the answer to a similar question, namely, that we are very interested in resolving this matter through the next package of amendments to the Labour Code, and we hope when that time comes all members of all parties in this House will give it their full support.

An hon. Member: When?

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PUBLISHING

REQUEST FOR BAN ON FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS SLANDERING CANADIAN PUBLIC FIGURES

Mr. Jesse P. Flis (Parkdale-High Park): Madam Speaker, my question, which was raised in the Ontario legislature but appropriately referred to this House, is for the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

In light of the fact that last week this House approved a motion expressing its strong disapproval for the publication *News from the Ukraine*, a Soviet publication distributed in Canada which deliberately spread hate literature about a former member of this House, the former member for Parkdale, and considering that this publication compared Mr. Shymko with the would-be assassins of Pope John Paul II and President Reagan, and in view of the fact that this kind of malicious propaganda by a foreign publication against a former member of this House cannot go unchallenged, what appropriate steps is the minister prepared to take to ban such publications from invading our borders and attempting to destroy the reputations of certain Canadian statespersons?

Hon. Mark MacGuigan (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Madam Speaker, last week I joined this House in supporting the motion which was passed. The statements made about Mr. Shymko were indeed deplorable.

● (1440)

We, being a free society, do not ban publications at the border. We do not have the power to act in that way but we have power, under our domestic legislation as in the anti-

propaganda legislation for instance, to take action against publications which may attack individuals. I have written to Mr. Shymko advising him along those lines, and I have no doubt that he is seeking advice from other quarters as well.

Madam Speaker: The hon. member for St. Catharines.

Mr. Joe Reid (St. Catharines): Madam Speaker, I have a short question for the minister who answers for the Canada Post Corporation. He was in the House a moment ago. I wonder if I might reserve my question until later in the question period.

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CANADIAN ARMED FORCES

COURT-MARTIALLING OF ORDINARY SEAMAN

Hon. Allan B. McKinnon (Victoria): Madam Speaker, I have given the Minister of National Defence notice of my question. Ordinary Seaman Emery was court-martialled in early January and sentenced to six months detention and fined \$750 on a drug related charge. The detention portion of the sentence was suspended by the court. Five weeks later, the commander, Pacific Command, using his authority to remit, remitted the fine but lifted suspension on three months of the detention, thus greatly increasing the punishment. Can the minister assure the House that he will take steps immediately to rectify this miscarriage of justice?

Hon. J. Gilles Lamontagne (Minister of National Defence): Madam Speaker, I thank the hon. member for advising me of the question ahead of time. I am well aware of the case of Private Emery. As soon as I got the telegram from his lawyers—and I think the hon. member received a copy—I asked that the proceedings of the court martial be sent to NDHQ to be reviewed quickly.

Despite the strict discipline that we must have in the military, and also the very strict regulations, I am always careful to ensure that the fundamental rights of all members of our forces are well preserved.

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SEARCH AND RESCUE

RESPONSE TO DISTRESS CALL FROM "OCEAN RANGER" DRILLING RIG

Hon. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Madam Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Defence concerning the tragic sinking of the *Ocean Ranger*. From the time the distress call came in to the Armed Forces Rescue Co-ordinating Centre at 1 a.m. on January 15, can the minister tell us why it took almost eight hours for the first National Defence plane to get to the scene? It did not arrive until 9 a.m. that same day. A helicopter from Universal Helicopters Ltd. in St. John's which had received the distress call at the same time