Motions for Papers

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Hon. Doug Lewis (Minister of State and Minister of State (Treasury Board)): Mr. Speaker, I wish to advise the House that question No. 331 will be answered today.

[Text]

NUCLEAR WASTE DISPOSAL

Ouestion No. 331—Ms. McDonald (Broadview—Greenwood):

Has the Government prepared or commissioned any studies related to the decommissioning of the proposed nuclear submarines and, if so, has the Government identified any nuclear-disposal sites or estimated the costs associated with this decommissioning?

Mr. Bud Bradley (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Defence): Preliminary assessments of costs and risks associated with decommissioning and nuclear waste disposal have been initiated. Costs of decommissioning have been evolved to Class D standards (departmental planning approval stage) as required for this phase of the project by Treasury Board. Discussions have been initiated with Atomic Energy of Canada Limited on the subject which indicate that viable technical solutions are available. It is a well-known fact that Canada is in the forefront of waste disposal technology.

Differences in the French and British reactors and fuels make detailed studies of decommissionning counterproductive prior to selection of a country of origin. To put the subject into perspective, the first of the nuclear powered submarines for the Canadian Navy is scheduled for completion in 1986. Assuming a 25 year life expectancy, that first submarine would be decommissioned about 2021. The time frame is such that, once the country of origin has been selected there will be adequate time for the most detailed and complete studies to examine the various methods employed today and those in the development phase with a view to selecting the safest solution.

[English]

Mr. Speaker: The question enumerated by the Parliamentary Secretary has been answered.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I ask that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

Mr. Speaker: Shall the remaining questions be allowed to stand?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

Mr. Jim Hawkes (Parliamentary Secretary to Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, would you be so kind as to call Motions for the

Production of Papers, Nos. P-9 and P-10 in the name of the Hon. Member for Skeena (Mr. Fulton). He evidently received notice and we had indications that he would be here. If there is no agent willing to act for him, we will let the matter drop and ask that Notices of Motions for the Production of Papers be allowed to stand.

Mr. Speaker: Shall all other Notices of Motions for the Production of Papers be allowed to stand?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

CANADA-UNITED STATES FREE TRADE AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION ACT

RULING BY SPEAKER

Mr. Speaker: I am now ready to rule on the arguments given some days ago with respect to Bill C-130. In my view, they were excellent arguments.

I wish to advise Hon. Members that the Chair has reviewed all of the points of order relating to Bill C-130, an Act to implement the Free Trade Agreement between Canada and the United States of America. These points of order were raised by several Hon. Members on May 18, May 19, May 30, and again on June 1.

There has been a total of five and one half hours of procedural discussion on the various points raised and I hope that the House will bear with me, as this ruling is somewhat lengthy.

The arguments relate to five general themes: first, the acceptability of the Ways and Means motion relating to the Bill; second, the requirement for asking the House for leave to introduce a Bill based on the Ways and Means motion already adopted when a Royal Recommendation is attached to the Bill; third, the omnibus nature of the Bill; fourth, the fact that the title of the Bill does not list all the statutes to be amended by the Bill; and fifth, the issue that Bill C-130, the free trade Bill, seeks to amend certain Bills which have yet to be passed by the House or receive Royal Assent.

The Chair has decided to deal with the points of order from a thematic point of view for the sake of clarity. First, I will deal with the acceptability of the Ways and Means motion preceding the enabling legislation for the free trade agreement. The Hon. Member for Kamloops—Shuswap (Mr. Riis) and the Hon. Member for Windsor West (Mr. Gray) made their interventions regarding this interesting procedural point on May 18 and May 19, 1988.