Motions for Papers

CORRESPONDENCE ON CANADA-U.S. DRAFT AGREEMENT ON FISHING PRIVILEGES

Motion No. 376-Mr. Howard (Skeena):

That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency praying that he will cause to be laid before this House a copy of all correspondence, telegrams and other documents exchanged between the government or any agency or department thereof and the Government of the United States of America or any agency or department thereof relating to the draft agreement on reciprocal fishing privileges as mentioned in a news release from the Department of Fisheries and Forestry dated February 16, 1970.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Stand, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Stand.

VIET NAM—CORRESPONDENCE FROM MRS. CLAIR CULHANE AND DR. ALJE VENEMMA

Motion No. 387-Mr. MacDonald (Egmont):

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of all correspondence with and reports to the Prime Minister, Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Canadian International Development Agency from Mrs. Clair Culhane and Dr. Alje Venemma with respect to their observations concerning Canada's involvement in foreign aid to Vietnam, possible misuse of Canadian aid and reported atrocities.

Mr. Speaker: Stand.

TELEGRAPH SERVICE STUDY

Motion No. 398-Mr. Orlikow:

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the study now being undertaken by the Department of Communications with the co-operation of the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs regarding the quality of telegraph service in Canada as indicated in answer to Question Number 1,344 in *Hansard* of March 16 at page 5039.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I move the motion on behalf of the hon. member.

Mr. Yves Forest (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Minister of Communications I wish to report the following:

A study of the public telegraph message services in Canada is now being completed by the Departments of Communications and Consumer and Corporate Affairs. When the Minister of Communications receives a report on this study, he expects to make a further statement to the House. I therefore ask the hon, member to withdraw his motion.

[Mr. Speaker.]

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I think this would be satisfactory subject to the right to put a similar motion at a later date.

Mr. Speaker: The motion is dropped.

Order discharged and motion withdrawn.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INDO-CHINA—CANADIAN POSITION ON INTER-NATIONAL CONFERENCE SUGGESTED BY II THANT

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs a question relating to the call by the Secretary General of the United Nations for an international conference on the situation in Indo-China. Does the government of Canada support the position of the Secretary General or does the government, through the Secretary of State for External Affairs, still feel the same scepticism about such a conference as the minister expressed last Friday?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): The answer to the first question of the Leader of the Opposition is that we are prepared to support the call of the Secretary General for a conference of all countries interested in the question of Indo-China. This has always been our position and remains so.

As for the Secretary General's specific proposal, we certainly agree with him in so far as he places importance on having present all of the countries which are involved. However, this proposal does not overcome the problem which he himself admits exists with the French proposal, on which his own was modelled, that some of the parties concerned do not approve of it.

Mr. Stanfield: Could the Secretary of State for External Affairs give us some further information about the proposal of the Secretary General? Has our ambassador to the United Nations given the minister further information? Is it, for example, the intention of the Secretary General to call such a conference himself, or is he simply urging that such a conference be convened by someone?

on this study, he expects to make a further statement to the House. I therefore ask the hon. member to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Sharp: I would have thought that the Secretary General, with all his experience in such matters, would not call such a confer-