

## NATO

**Mr. MacInnis:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. May I remind Your Honour that previously when you ruled a question out of order the Prime Minister nevertheless was permitted to answer.

**Mr. Schreyer:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. May I ask the minister why there are two versions of an important speech he gave. There is a French version and an English language version of the speech he made to the Quebec Liberal Association. He made a very important statement which appears in the English version but it is missing entirely from the French version.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I do not think this is a matter which can be brought up as a question of privilege. Perhaps a question ought to be directed to the translator.

## TRANSPORT

## BORDEN-TORMENTINE FERRY RATES

**Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order which relates to an earlier question of privilege. I did not wish to bring the matter up earlier because I did not wish to take up the time of the house. During the course of questioning with regard to increases in ferry rates the Minister of Transport may have misled the house. He misrepresented, I submit, the position that was adopted before the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications where it was indicated no decision had been taken. In the house he indicated that ferry rates governing the Northumberland Strait crossing by the Canadian National were to be increased. I therefore submit that he misled the standing committee and the house on a very important matter affecting transportation to and from one of our provinces. I think the house deserves an explanation from the minister with regard to this particular question.

**Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, perhaps I can clear up the misunderstanding at once by saying that the government has decided in principle to increase the ferry rates. Secondly, no decision has yet been taken with respect to the new level of the rates which the government is presently considering. I am afraid that this has been a question of semantics. I did not mean to mislead the house.

[Mr. Speaker.]

• (3:00 p.m.)

## GOVERNMENT ORDERS

## NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

## MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF GOVERNMENT POLICY

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister)** moved:

That this house supports the government's policy of continued Canadian participation in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the intention of the government, in consultation with Canada's allies, to take early steps to bring about a planned and phased reduction of the size of Canadian forces in Europe.

[Translation]

He said: Mr. Speaker, the government welcomes this debate for it provides an occasion to discuss in the House of Commons those aspects of Canadian defence policy which were announced earlier this month.

The government's decision to engage in a thorough review of its foreign policy was, I think it fair to say, welcomed by most Canadians and indeed by representatives of all political parties. Some years have passed since the last careful re-evaluation of our external relations was conducted, and much has changed in the world in the interval. Our decision to review was taken with care, and the review in its several aspects is being pursued with care. In an exercise as important and as infrequent as this, haste is not a criterion which we on this side regard as necessary. Far better, we believe, to proceed with deliberate speed and attention than to meet artificial deadlines with incomplete studies and hurried decisions.

This comprehensive foreign policy review fulfils an undertaking given by the Liberal party in the last election campaign. I stated late last May that a thorough re-examination was needed "because of the changing nature of Canada and the world around us."

I also said and I quote:

—our approach will be pragmatic and realistic—above all to see that our policies in the future accord with our national needs and resources, with our ability to discharge Canada's legitimate responsibilities in world affairs.

It is our intention that the review will, prior to conclusion, encompass all aspects of our foreign relations, including trade, economic assistance programs, and defence. Some parts of the review are, of course, more