

Supply—National Defence

that respect, and there is a limited amount of money provided in these estimates for further research. We are particularly anxious that if we increase the number of helicopters there should be a strong Canadian content in the helicopter which is decided upon.

Questions were asked about ideological warfare. I would like to assure the hon. member that this is not being neglected, and that as far as our regular forces are concerned they do receive instruction in this matter. Perhaps it would be more appropriate to refer to the activities of the defence research board in this respect as being anti-ideological warfare; that is to say, they are concerning themselves with steps which can be taken to make our soldiers immune from attacks by the enemy under this heading. Furthermore, consideration is given to this aspect of training at the various training establishments, commencing at the Royal Military College, staff colleges and so forth. I want to assure the hon. member that we are not entirely neglecting that aspect, which I appreciate is a serious one. Remember that the main effect of attacks under that heading would be directed against the civilian population, and of course that comes under the question of education and is rather out of the field covered by these estimates.

The Leader of the Opposition asked for information as to the steps which are being taken in connection with the implementation of the recommendations of the estimates committee a year ago. The first one related to the policy concerning the CF-105 program, and in the final sentence of their recommendation the committee expressed its concern at the government entering into any such weapon program of this magnitude without first negotiating for some cost-sharing agreement by the NATO member countries and the United States of America under the NORAD agreement.

We have not entered into any more contracts of this nature unless one considers—and it is not of the same magnitude—the re-equipping of the air division; and as has already been stated, the Minister of Defence Production will be able to explain the steps which are being taken in connection with the sharing of production in this respect with our NATO partners. Also, in the development of the air defence of Canada we have entered into a cost sharing and production sharing agreement with the United States.

As to the necessity of maintaining separate provost and padre services and separate medical services, definite progress has been made toward the unification of the medical services and the padre services. As to the

provost corps, further steps have been taken to integrate the general services particularly with respect to detention barracks, but it is not considered advisable—and I think I said this last year—that personnel of one service should be apprehended or interfered with on the streets by personnel of a different force.

The next question concerned civil defence. That has been covered. The committee wished to impress upon the government the urgency of a review of the civil defence program, and asked that this should proceed without delay. That has been done and the results have been forthcoming. As to the co-ordination of the service colleges and university training, a director of the R.O.T.P. program has been appointed, and there is a high degree of co-ordination there.

With regard to service personnel generally, establishment committees are carrying out a thorough examination of all personnel who are employed in these various branches and every effort is being made to eliminate any unnecessary overhead.

As far as the recommendation regarding the main estimates is concerned, that is being carried through. As I announced yesterday, the estimates are presented in the blue book. They are developed under different headings, and as soon as we have finished this general debate and passed this first item we will be able to go on to a detailed examination of the various forces, such as the army, the navy, the air force, the defence research board and so forth, following the listing of the parliamentary votes as given in the blue book.

I have answered as many of the questions as I remember. I hope I have covered the subject fully; I do not want to deny information which it is possible for me to give any hon. member. I trust I have covered the points which were raised this morning.

Mr. Hellyer: Mr. Chairman, we are prepared to allow the first item to carry on the minister's assurance that there will be no attempt to limit the discussion on the other items of the defence estimates as we proceed.

Mr. Hamilton (York West): I think the item should carry without an undertaking as broad as the one mentioned. I think on the first item of each of the forces' estimates there could be a fairly broad discussion within the realm of the force in question, but to agree that every item should be discussed on a broad general basis would not, I think, be possible.

Mr. Pearson: All we want on this side of the house is an assurance that if the first item carries and we come, say, to the air force,