

the factors contributing to inflation are primarily ones which arise domestically?

**Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman is stating it a little too starkly, but I wanted to take the time of the House to assure myself that he understood the government's position in 1973-74.

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### NATIONAL DEFENCE

#### ALLEGED UNJUST SENTENCES BY COURTS MARTIAL IN ATLANTIC COMMAND—REQUEST FOR REPORT

**Mr. Joe Flynn (Kitchener):** I have a question for the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister report to the House on the unjust penal sentences apparently issued at recent courts martial in the Atlantic Command to members of our naval forces for petty offences such as removing two cartons of cigarettes from a naval dockyard? Mr. Speaker, I said "removing" not "stealing". These sentences have amounted to as long as one year in penitentiary.

● (1450)

**Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence):** I think the sentences are in order having regard to the crimes committed, but they are, of course, subject to appeal.

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### PUBLISHING

#### ALLEGED STATEMENT BY MINISTER ADVOCATING GREATER CANADIAN CONTENT IN FOREIGN MAGAZINES—REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION

**Mr. Cyril Symes (Sault Ste. Marie):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State. About a week ago the hon. gentleman made a speech to United States publishers advocating that there be a higher degree of Canadian content in foreign magazines if they were to be welcome in Canada. Would the minister clarify that statement? Is he suggesting a policy which would inhibit the free flow of foreign magazines into this country.

**Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State):** No, Mr. Speaker; I made a specific point of that in my speech in West Virginia. If the hon. member wishes further clarification I shall be at the Standing Committee on Broadcasting on Friday morning.

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### ELECTION EXPENSES

#### POSSIBILITY OF INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION—GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Mr. Joe Clark (Rocky Mountain):** Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Acting Prime Minister in his capacity as President of the Privy Council. Does the gov-

### Oral Questions

ernment intend to introduce this session any further amendments to legislation concerning election expenses?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister):** I think it would be desirable if legislation of this sort could be introduced during the present session. I have had the advantage of recommendations from an all-party committee which has been considering the Election Expenses Act; proposals have been put before me which are now being translated into the form of amendments to the act. I would hope that if any members of the House of Commons, or any of the associations or other bodies in the country which are interested have suggestions to make, those suggestions would be forwarded now in order that they may be incorporated into the draft which I look forward to placing before the House before the end of the session.

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### FINANCE

#### BALANCE OF PAYMENTS POSITION OF UNDERDEVELOPED NATIONS—POSITION OF IMF SPECIAL FUND

**Mr. Douglas Roche (Edmonton-Strathcona):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Finance. In welcoming him back, may I ask him to make a full statement to the House shortly on his findings as to the situation in the Middle East. As the International Monetary Fund has reported that the world's industrialized nations have regained most of the monetary reserves they had lost since the fourfold increase in the price of oil, has there been any recent improvement in the balance of payments position of the less well developed nations, excluding the major oil exporters, and what has happened to the IMF special fund?

**Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance):** There has been some success among the industrialized nations in cushioning themselves against their deficit position in their balance of payments. The IMF facility is in place. The so-called solidarity fund stands at \$25 billion. Because the oil exporting countries, particularly Iran and Saudi Arabia, are finding that they are able to absorb more of this money by way of imports and the industrialization of their own economies, they are accumulating surplus at a less rapid rate. The problem on the third world, however, remains just as great as it was.

#### GOVERNMENT POLICY ON MEASURES TO CLOSE GAP BETWEEN RICH AND POOR NATIONS

**Mr. Douglas Roche (Edmonton-Strathcona):** Is it the intention of the government to link up the work the minister has just completed in the Middle East in the recycling of petro-dollars, to link up the proposal made this week by the Secretary of State for External Affairs for revenue-sharing at the Law of the Sea Conference, to link up the statements of the Prime Minister on the new international economic order which he made at the Commonwealth conference, to link all these into a new, comprehensive policy on international development which will put Canada in the forefront of the developed nations, recognizing that it is international structural changes, not