INDIAN AFFAIRS

BRITISH COLUMBIA—COURT DECISION RESPECTING LEASED RESERVE LAND

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question on a domestic matter to the Minister of Justice. I posed it on Friday but was not able to get an answer. If I could rephrase my question in case the minister has not read it, it related to a decision by county court judge Kirke Smith of British Columbia that Indian reserve land surrendered for lease is in fact no longer reserve land. Because of the dangerous precedent set by this decision, what action is the government taking to cope with this situation and perhaps reverse the decision?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): I will look into that judgment, Mr. Speaker. I must see whether it is going to be appealed before making any definitive statement here.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

STUDY OF TELEVISING HOUSE OR COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey): Mr. Speaker, I want to draw a question to the attention of either the Prime Minister or the Secretary of State. Could encouragement be given at this session of the house to a study by a committee of the house, perhaps by the committee on procedure, into the question of televising at least some of the proceedings of the House of Commons or of some of its committees?

[Translation]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I certainly think that consideration can be given to that question, but I do not think I am wrong in saying that this comes mainly within your own authority, Mr. Speaker.

[English]

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

DIFFERENCE IN RATES FOR NEWSPAPERS AND OTHER SECOND CLASS MAIL

On the orders of the day:

Mr. P. V. Noble (Grey-Simcoe): Mr. Speakdaily newspapers and a flat rate for all other of the alliance, and there I suppose we can publications sent as second class mail?

Inquiries of the Ministry

Hon. Eric W. Kierans (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, I think we are going to be discussing that later on in the day.

NATIONAL DEFENCE

INQUIRY AS TO CLOSING OF ZWEIBRUCKEN BASE

On the orders of the day:

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of National Defence. I think it was on October 4 that the minister said the government was reconsidering its decision to close the Canadian base at Zweibrucken in Germany. Will the minister say whether this review has been completed and, if so, what decision has been reached?

Hon. Leo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, I would like to check what I said on October 4. I would be very surprised if I said we were reconsidering this question. This is part of the over-all review of the national defence and external affairs policy, and no decision has been arrived at yet. No conclusions have been drawn from that study; therefore there is no change in the position we have taken about Zweibrucken.

NATO-REPORTED INCREASE IN MILITARY BUDGET

On the orders of the day:

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): Mr. Speaker, I wish to pose a supplementary question. On Friday I addressed it to the Prime Minister, and perhaps the Minister of National Defence could either answer it now or take it as notice. It was with regard to reports that the budget of NATO will be increased over the next five years. Have representations been made to Canada to increase its NATO budget over the next period of years and, if so, what has been Canada's response?

Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence): So far as I am concerned, Mr. Speaker, I know that some representations were made to Canada concerning the NATO commitment. Naturally by implication that would mean an increased budget, but the study we are going on with is not completed yet, and as far as the eventual position that Canada can take is concerned I think we will er, I would like to direct a question to the have to wait until the NATO alliance meeting Postmaster General. Could the minister tell takes place in November, at which we will the house why there will be a split rate for discuss the over-all problems with members establish what the position is.