

Inquiries of the Ministry

joined forces in 1958 to carry out a long-term program of re-entry phenomena studies at upper levels of the earth's atmosphere, under an informal agreement between the heads of the two agencies, because of the proficiency and the unique facilities then developed at the Canadian armament research and development establishment. The results of the work have been equally available to Canada and to the United States. I might mention that the details were made public in October, 1968, in the Defence Research Board presentation to the Committee on Science Policy of the other place, and it was also reported in the annual reports of the Defence Research Board which were classified until 1966, but which since then have been unclassified.

I should add that the Canadian armament research and development establishment at Valcartier has not participated in any program for the interception of ballistic missiles.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. Can the minister inform the house, whether, as a result of the research done in Canada, the Canadian authorities and the government were informed of the range of the Spartan anti-ballistic missile and the range of the Sprint anti-ballistic missile in order that this government be made aware of the facts concerning the present A.B.M. system which has been proposed by the President of the United States?

Mr. Sharp: I understand that the research had to do with the re-entry phenomenon of the missiles which would be attacking Canada or the United States, and that it was concerned only with their paths and the problems of intercepting them, not with the development of the anti-ballistic missiles themselves.

ACTIVITIES OF U.S.S.R. NAVAL UNITS IN NORTH ATLANTIC

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): I should like to address a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs in the absence of the Minister of National Defence. Can the minister say whether Canada was informed by the U.S.S.R. of the purposes of the reportedly extensive exercise of some sort, by Russian naval units, that is taking place in the north Atlantic. If this is not the case, has the government been kept informed by any of its

[Mr. Sharp.]

allies of the purpose of these movements, as well as they can be learned, and are these units of the Russian navy under surveillance by Canadian forces?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): I will take notice of the question and refer it to the Minister of National Defence.

[Translation]

AIR CANADA

EMPLOYMENT OF PART-TIME STAFF

Mr. Roland Godin (Portneuf): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Transport.

Can he tell us whether Air Canada has advised him of its intention to hire 150 part-time employees, that is 50 persons at each of its airports in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver?

Mr. Speaker: I believe the question could be put on the order paper or taken up on adjournment this evening or tomorrow.

Mr. Godin: Ten o'clock, Mr. Speaker.

[English]

HOUSING

C.M.H.C.—CRITERIA APPLICABLE IN PROJECTS

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): My question is directed to the Minister of Transport and results partially from his visit in Hamilton where, I understand, he spent some 37 minutes reviewing some 328 acres of urban renewal, costing—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Will the hon. member put his question.

Mr. Alexander: My question is: Is the minister now prepared to give the guidelines regarding public housing which he had indicated to the hon. member for Halifax-East Hants would be forthcoming? I believe the hon. member asked on March 25 whether this information would be given in writing and the minister said that it would be in the hands of the house within two or three days.

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): I do not recall saying that this information would be in the hands of the house within two or three days. It is in the course of