

whether they were members of the Canadian delegation in Washington or not, have an opportunity during the course of this debate to express their views on this important problem.

Honourable senators will recall that the Canadian delegation arrived in Washington a few hours after the announcement by President Nixon of restrictions on the importation of oil into the United States from Canada. When an American colleague expressed his regrets to me on the ill-timing of this announcement, I told him that he should feel perfectly at ease because, I submit, it would have been more embarrassing to us had this announcement been made the day following our departure from Washington.

Honourable senators, since my colleagues on the delegation will be dealing with the topics they have introduced for discussion, I am going to limit my remarks to the program of this visit to Washington, Cape Kennedy, Houston and San Antonio, Texas.

On the day of our arrival in Washington we attended a reception given by His Excellency Marcel Cadieux, the Canadian ambassador, and his charming wife, in honour of the Canadian delegation. I wish here to express to them, on behalf of the delegation, our gratitude and thanks for their warm hospitality.

In the evening a delicious dinner was given by the United States delegation at the National Portrait Gallery in the Smithsonian Institute, and the honourable Senator Phillips (Rigaud) was invited to speak on behalf of the delegation. As would be expected, he made an effective and impressive speech, and we were very proud of him.

There was throughout this trip a remarkable team spirit exhibited by our delegation. On every possible occasion we used our best talents, and I think we succeeded in creating a favourable impression.

On March 11 the entire day was spent in discussions at the two separate panels, and after the luncheon, at 2 o'clock, before resuming the sitting for the afternoon, we were introduced on the Senate floor by Senator Church. On this occasion the proceedings of the Senate were adjourned for a few minutes to permit our American colleagues to shake hands with the Canadian delegates on the floor of that house. This was, according to custom, an unusual gesture of friendship for which we are very grateful to our American friends.

After the meeting the four co-chairmen prepared a press release for this thirteenth

[Hon. Mr. Deschatelets.]

meeting, as well as reports of both committees. Since these two official documents give an accurate analysis of the discussions, I feel that they should be printed as an appendix to the *Debates of the Senate* for this day.

The Hon. the Acting Speaker: Honourable senators, is it agreed that these documents be printed as an appendix?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

(For texts of press release and reports of committees, see Appendix, pp. 818-20)

Hon. Mr. Deschatelets: On Thursday, March 12 we left Washington very early in the morning in two presidential aircraft for Cape Kennedy where we saw Apollo XIII on its launching pad, and Apollo XIV on its way to being assembled. As honourable senators can imagine, this was one of the highlights of our visit to the United States, as was the tour of the NASA manned spacecraft centre in Houston the following day. Since we have now seen this tremendous, unbelievable, and complicated organization, the launching of Apollo XIII in the next few days will represent for us a new perspective. We are, of course, most grateful to our American colleagues for this memorable tour.

On the evening of Friday, March 13, there was a reception and dinner in honour of the Canadian delegation. It was not quite St. Patrick's day, but I may say that it was honourable Senator O'Leary's day. He made a remarkable speech in which he warned our American friends not to take Canada for granted, and told them that Canada's identity was an irreversible fact. It is my hope—and I make this plea now to Senator O'Leary—that in his report to the Senate he will repeat some of the important statements he made on that occasion for the benefit of his colleagues in this house and of the Canadian press.

The visit to the astrodome at Houston left us almost speechless. It might be of interest to you to know that this beautiful covered stadium was built by local private enterprise and is operating on a profit basis. With the kind of weather we have in this country, I am sure that all my colleagues share the dream that some day it will be possible for us to build such a sports entertainment temple in this country.

On Saturday, March 14, we arrived in San Antonio, Texas, where we received the full red carpet treatment. Awaiting us as we stepped from the aircraft in beautiful, sunny, 70-degree weather, was a long red carpet on