

injustice has been done or the law misinterpreted in any way, we will take appropriate action.

FISHERWOMEN—ELIGIBILITY UNDER UNEMPLOYMENT
INSURANCE PLAN

Mr. John R. Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary is directed to the same Minister. Can the Minister assure the House that these women will be allowed to work as fisherwomen and be eligible for off-season unemployment benefits?

Hon. Benoît Bouchard (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, much as I answered earlier, each unemployment insurance claim is assessed on its own merits. We will examine the situation and decide whether or not they are eligible under the plan. It will depend on whether or not they are eligible for unemployment insurance benefits.

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[English]

POINT OF ORDER

REQUEST TO TABLE CORRESPONDENCE

Hon. Bob Kaplan (York Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. A few moments ago in answer to a question asked by the Hon. Member for Ottawa—Carleton (Mr. Turner) the Solicitor General (Mr. Kelleher) referred to an exchange of letters with the Security Intelligence Review Committee. The matter raised in *The Globe and Mail* was so serious that I wonder if I could ask the Minister to table the letter he sent and the reply he received from the Security Intelligence Review Committee.

Hon. James Kelleher (Solicitor General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, I did not quote from the letters. However, I am quite prepared to send to Hon. Members copies of the letters in question. I have nothing to hide in this regard.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY, S. O. 82—REFUGEES—GOVERNMENT POLICY

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Marchi:

That this House condemns the Government's refugee policy for its failing badly to uphold Canada's proud and humane record for refugee assistance and for abandoning our nation's respected international leadership on this tragic, world-wide human dilemma, which will serve to jeopardize a meaningful international solution to what is clearly an international phenomenon;

That this House further deplores the Government's refusal to assure refugee claimants full accessibility to, and a non-adversarial hearing before, an independent refugee board; and

Supply

That, therefore, this House urge the Government to establish a fair, accessible and efficient refugee administration system, which would:

- (1) guarantee full accessibility to the system for refugee claimants by rejecting any pre-screening stage within the process;
- (2) ensure maximum protection and safety for all refugees and a comprehensive and adequate hearing of their claims by abolishing the highly restrictive "safe third country" concept as an integral part of the refugee determination process; and
- (3) provide every refugee with the opportunity of an appeal before a competent and independent refugee body that would consider all facts and circumstances of the appellant's claims.

Hon. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce—Lachine East): Mr. Speaker, the motion before the House today—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I would ask all Hon. Members who are not participating in the debate to please clear the Chamber.

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate your attempt to have Hon. Members carry on their conversations outside the House so that we continue this discussion on refugee policy.

The motion before the House today asks the House to condemn the Government's refugee policy for its failing badly to uphold Canada's proud and humane record for refugee assistance. It goes on to deplore the Government's refusal to assure refugee claimants, in its new legislation, full accessibility to, and a non-adversarial hearing before, an independent refugee board. In addition, the motion urges the Government to establish a fair, accessible and efficient refugee determination system, and the details are put before the House for the consideration of the Government.

In order to discuss Canadian policy on refugees we must first put Canada into a world context with respect to refugees. As most Hon. Members know, there is a growing tragedy of refugees and misplaced persons throughout the world. This has been due in part to the incidence of regional wars, civil conflicts and revolutions throughout the world.

As of February, 1986, there was on record, since 1945, 120 regional and local wars resulting in 19 million deaths. Many people talk about the last war and they refer to the war in 1945.

As I just pointed out, since 1945 there have been 120 regional and local wars resulting in 19 million deaths. Two-thirds of those deaths were among civilians, and 16 million of them were in the Third World.

● (1510)

In addition to the large number of deaths resulting from regional and local wars, the United Nations estimates that there are between 15 million and 20 million refugees in the world. About three million of them are Afghans and about two million of them are Palestinians. They include refugees from Indo-China, Iran, Central America, and Latin America.

As citizens of the world, not only citizens of Canada, we must ask who will take care of these refugees? Is Canada