

*Adjournment Debate***PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT
MOTION***[English]*

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS—IMPRISONMENT IN SOVIET UNION OF
ANATOLY SHCHARANSKY—EFFORTS TO OBTAIN RELEASE**

Mr. Bob Kaplan (York Centre): Mr. Speaker, communism and capitalism are two different theories of production and distribution of goods. Capitalism has produced enormous advances in economic standards that have occurred throughout the industrial revolution. It is an efficient system which also encourages human enterprise, freedom, and mobility. But for many around the world the communist model has been the attractive one. Embodied perhaps in its noblest form in the constitution of the Soviet Union, it purports to protect the freedom of the individual, freedom of religion, of association of movement; it grants economic and social rights far beyond even the official guarantees of the citizen in Canada. It is a document of great vision which, since the 1920's, attracted many even in Canada who saw it as an enormous advance over tsarist feudalism and repression.

The story of how the Russian revolution was perverted is one of the great tragedies of human history, a tragedy whose end might even be the destruction of modern civilization. Yet so great is the hypocrisy of the modern tsars who rule from the Kremlin that they continue to hold forth their model constitution and to enter into accords like the Helsinki Agreement, binding themselves to respect the basic human rights of their citizens, with no intention of doing anything more than they happen to consider convenient.

Anatoly Shcharansky is a young Soviet Jew who wants to go to Israel. He is a Soviet citizen who stood up to ask for his constitutional rights to go to his historic homeland to join his Israeli wife who came to this parliament in Ottawa last month to ask for our help. Last Saturday some members met with 30 Shcharansky relatives, most of whom live in my constituency, who all asked our help for their relative. It was Anatoly Shcharansky who also undertook to monitor in the Soviet Union his country's compliance with the Helsinki Agreement. He did in the Soviet Union what I am doing in Canada as a member of the Helsinki Review Committee of this parliament. These are his only apparent crimes.

On March 16 of this year he was arrested, and that was the last anyone outside prison has seen of him. No contact has been permitted, no charges have been laid, no defence has been allowed. In Canada a person can be held prisoner in jail for seven days without being charged. In the Soviet Union nine months are permitted, and these nine months end today, December 15, for Anatoly Shcharansky.

Every week his mother, who is now 70 years old, visited the prison in Moscow for contact or news of her son. What part of the establishment of communism is it to deny an old woman

[Mr. Cafik.]

any news of her son? Because he is Jewish, because he wants to go to Israel or wants his civil rights?

On Monday Canada officially offered landed immigrant status to Anatoly Shcharansky.

● (2207)

Today the answer came in the form of a Reuter's press release from Moscow announcing that the nine-month investigation will be continued for another six months. So much for human rights; so much for the constitution; so much for the Helsinki Agreement. The Canadian government cannot accept this treatment of Shcharansky. Human rights are international; we are one family. Mr. Shcharansky's relatives in Canada have asked their government to raise the Shcharansky case and to make a specific recommendation on his behalf to tie his case to the Helsinki Agreement, and I am asking, for those relatives, that the government do so.

Mr. Maurice Dupras (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I commend my hon. colleague for his concern for the fate of Mr. Anatoly Shcharansky. He is in good company because no less than 60 hon. members have sent letters or made representations to the minister in this regard. As the hon. member indicated a few minutes ago, many of our colleagues met with Mrs. Shcharansky ten or 15 days ago.

The minister informed the House on December 12, in answer to a question put by the hon. member for Windsor West (Mr. Gray), that he had called the Soviet ambassador and made representations to him about the Shcharansky case. The Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Jamieson) drew the ambassador's attention to the broad concern being expressed about the case in Canada, and said that in the interests of detente and of relations between our two countries Canada would be prepared to accept Mr. Shcharansky, should the Soviets decide to allow him to leave the Soviet Union.

The government has met with Mr. Shcharansky's relatives in Canada who are willing to sponsor his admission to this country, and we would, of course, expedite his entry into Canada.

**EXPORT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION—REASON FOR
FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR CANADIAN SUPERIOR OIL TO DRILL
IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

Mr. Cyril Symes (Sault Ste. Marie): Mr. Speaker, this evening I want to pursue a question I asked the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Horner) on December 8 relating to an export development loan or insurance guarantee of some \$25 million to Superior Oil of Canada Limited as insurance for its exploration activities in the Dominican Republic.

My concern is that we are using public money in a fashion which will not benefit Canadians, contrary to what the minister claims. The minister argues that this insurance of \$25 million is necessary to encourage Superior Oil to drill for oil in a central American country and that, without this insurance