

cut loans to Nicaragua but multiply aid to El Salvador and Guatemala. As an example, the Inter-American Development Bank is now considering building two bridges to span the Lempa River in El Salvador, both of which are of strategic importance to the army in the civil war which has lasted for over three and a half years.

The Washington institute states that, "in the last half of 1982, the United States was able to squeeze \$205 million out of the international financial institutions for El Salvador, limit Nicaragua to \$34 million, and brush aside vigorous congressional opposition to Guatemala." All this has been done even though the international lending institutions have non-political charters forbidding discrimination against member countries, and requiring that loans be decided on economic grounds alone. Actually, the U.S. support for an Inter-American Bank Loan to Guatemala is significant, because it was the last right wing country on which U.S. human rights voting policy was in effect. Now the law is being applied only against leftist dictatorships like South Yemen.

In light of this, I call upon the Government to take to heart the proposals of the Canadian Task Force on the Churches and Corporate Responsibility, a group representing the Roman Catholic Church and Protestant denominations, to oppose IMF loan applications from countries engaging in or condoning "consistent and gross violations" of human rights.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS—GRANTING OF EXIT VISAS TO PENTECOSTALISTS

Mr. David Smith (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, on numerous occasions I have risen in this House to criticize the Soviet Government for their suppression of human rights of Soviet citizens, and in particular their steadfast refusal to grant exit visas to those wishing to leave the Soviet Union for religious and intellectual freedom or to be reunited with family members in the West.

Earlier this week the Soviet Union allowed five Pentecostal members of the Yashchenko family to emigrate. I have today sent a letter to Mr. Yuri Andropov to commend his Government on this action, and urging him to issue exit visas to other Soviet citizens wishing to leave for legitimate reasons. There are over 350,000 Pentecostal believers in Canada who welcome this good news about their fellow believers.

Soviet officials should know that if they wish to improve relations with Canada and our allies, and establish good will with Canadians, we need to see more action of this nature. Unfortunately, the Yashchenko family are the exception, not the rule. Thousands of Soviet Jews have been refused permission to leave. Hopefully, however, this is a sign of a reversal in Soviet policy, and I wish to commend Mr. Andropov on this decision and urge him to grant the same treatment to the thousands who are still waiting and hoping.

Oral Questions

HOUSE OF COMMONS

REGRET AT ABSENCE OF MOTIONS UNDER PROVISIONS OF STANDING ORDER 21

Mr. Arnold Malone (Crowfoot): Madam Speaker, I rise today to make a statement against statements. Since January, when we adopted new rules, I believe that there has been a great undercutting of Members of Parliament because we now cannot put motions which will cause action to be taken over the words we say in the House. I believe it is quite irrelevant whether we talk of the equality of women, native rights, or the release of Jews from the Soviet Union, if individual Members of Parliament cannot attach to their comments a motion requiring action. It was for that that our constituents sent us to Parliament. To give pretty speeches which have as much effect as if you had given them under a full moon, at midnight, at the bottom of Lake Superior, is no different than having a public speaking competition somewhere out in Boy Scout or 4-H Club country.

I simply say that the time honoured right of Members of Parliament to make a motion to cause action needs to be returned to this House, especially so in light of the fact that it is becoming increasingly difficult—and I understand the reasons why—for Members to make Private Member's Motions. For those reasons I simply urge my colleagues in the House, when this experiment is over, to take a strong look at the matter of statements and to remember that action is more important than words, because Parliament needs to be accountable.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

THE ECONOMY

PRIME MINISTER'S TELEVISED STATEMENT—INCREASE IN UNEMPLOYMENT

Hon. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister who spoke to the unreal world of television last night. Here we have to deal with reality, because he did not deal with it last night. Indeed, it was a cruel way to treat the two million unemployed Canadians when he said, "This is not a time of crisis. I speak of a time of rising hope."

How can the Prime Minister say that to the two million unemployed in this country? How can he say we have come a long way this year when, in actual fact, from last May until this May we have 265,000 more Canadians unemployed—87,000 women, 91,000 young people, and 92,000 heads of families? Where is the rising hope, where is the lack of crisis the Prime Minister spoke of on television last night?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker, I regret that the Hon. Member did not hear or watch