

S. O. 31

As CFB Shilo is the principal army base between London, Ontario and Calgary, the strength of this base must be maintained to ensure that adequate forces are available to meet any emergency which may arise. In addition, the presence of the base and the civilian jobs which it has created make an immense economic contribution to western Manitoba, which our region cannot afford to lose.

In conclusion, I ask the Minister of National Defence to take whatever steps are necessary to protect the future of CFB Shilo and to reassure my constituents who understandably are worried by the speculative newspaper stories of recent days.

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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby—Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the 30th anniversary of Amnesty International to pay tribute to this internationally respected human rights organization, with more than a million members in over 150 countries around the world and over 1,000 dedicated staff members.

Amnesty International's work on behalf of prisoners of conscience, over 42,000 since its founding in May 1961, and its tireless advocacy of an end to torture and the death penalty have been an inspiration to all Canadians.

[Translation]

As an Amnesty International representative said, after 30 years we are sure of only one thing: It is now much harder for governments to cover up their crimes and avoid paying the political price.

[English]

Amnesty International has noted that two out of three people are ruled by governments that torture and kill their citizens and that political opponents are held in more than half the countries in the world.

Therefore, in congratulating Amnesty International, let us rededicate ourselves to a world in which fundamental human rights, including economic, social and cultural rights, are respected in all countries throughout the globe.

[Translation]

TRIBUTE TO YVES LAFOREST

Mr. Clément Couture (Saint-Jean): Mr. Speaker, on May 15 this year, Mr. Yves Laforest, a resident of my riding, hoisted the flag of Quebec on the summit of Mount Everest. Mr. Laforest is the first Quebecer to reach the highest peak in the world, at 8,848 metres.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of my riding and on behalf of all Canadians, I wish to pay tribute to Mr. Laforest and congratulate him on his success.

Now that is an example of endurance and determination!

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[English]

NATIONAL ACCESS AWARENESS WEEK

Mr. Jim Jordan (Leeds—Grenville): Mr. Speaker, this is National Access Awareness Week in Canada.

Of the 3.3 million Canadians with disabilities, 60 per cent are unemployed.

Access Awareness Week is an attempt to have the public develop an appreciation of the problems associated with disabled people. Access to employment, access to education, access to better housing, access to recreation, access to a better quality of life; these things which most Canadians take for granted as their basic rights are often denied the disabled.

As Canadians, let us support National Access Awareness Week in our communities in order that disabled Canadians will be able to enjoy the same level of services that all other Canadians enjoy.

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TAXATION

Mr. Al Johnson (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, the federal tax system is unfair in its treatment of the family. There are a number of family organizations which have made significant contributions toward strengthening the family. Their work demonstrates that the tax system discriminates against the family. Organizations such as the Vanier Institute, the Kids First Association, and *l'Alliance pour la justice fiscale* have made in depth studies of different aspects of the tax system and have