

The Minister of Finance showed an appalling and shocking insensitivity, and clearly demonstrated to all Canadians how totally out of touch the minister and the Mulroney government really is. The Minister of Finance should stand in his place, hang his head in shame, and apologize to Canadians—Canadians who are losing their jobs, their business, their farms—

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member's time has expired.

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[*Translation*]

#### FESTIVAL DU CINÉMA INTERNATIONAL IN THE ABITIBI-TÉMISCAMINGUE

**Mr. Gabriel Desjardins (Témiscamingue):** Mr. Speaker, today is the last day of the ninth Festival du Cinéma international in Rouyn-Noranda, in the Abitibi-Témiscamingue region. For the ninth consecutive year, the festival has been exceptionally well received. More than 90 films from 24 countries—a satisfying menu indeed.

Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr. Jacques Matte and his team, as well as the army of volunteers who once again helped to make this event an unqualified success.

We also want to thank the people in the film industry who came from across the globe. Our thanks also to the media, to our sponsors, including Telefilm Canada and the Department of Industry, Science and Technology. And above all, thanks to thousands of film buffs who by their diligent attendance have made the Festival du Cinéma International in Abitibi-Témiscamingue such a tremendous success.

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[*English*]

#### UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL

**Mrs. Christine Stewart (Northumberland):** Mr. Speaker, today the United States has taken over the presidency of the Security Council of the United Nations as part of the monthly routine rotation of that office.

That the U.S. assumes this position at such a critical time in the gulf crisis is of great concern to many. The

#### S. O. 31

U.S.-led Operation Desert Shield, which has occurred outside the realm of the United Nations and the Security Council, raises questions about the commitment of the U.S. to give UN primacy in this conflict.

Last week we heard the Secretary of State for External Affairs admit publicly that his government would go to war without UN approval if necessary, in direct contradiction to his own previous statements that the Canadian policy should derive from the Security Council resolutions.

Now that the U.S. has taken over the presidency of the Security Council, I call on the U.S. to use its position on the council to encourage a UN command system in the gulf crisis.

I also call on the Canadian government, instead of threatening war, to use its own diplomacy and UN initiatives to find creative ways to ensure a peaceful resolution to the gulf crisis and the release of Canadian hostages in Iraq.

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#### TRADE

**Mr. John R. Rodriguez (Nickel Belt):** Mr. Speaker, I have here a letter addressed to the President of the United States, George Bush, Oval Office, White House, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

Dear President Bush:

I understand that a bill sits on your desk in your oval office awaiting your signature.

This bill includes the Mack amendment which forbids Canadian subsidiaries of American parent companies from trading with Cuba.

Mr. President, you are no longer running the CIA and their covert operations in Canada and Latin America. As you sit at your desk I want you to remember that the Canadian Government is about the only crony who will follow your marching orders in good times and in bad times.

Mr. President, in spite of your obedient servant Brian Martin Joseph Mulroney from Baie Comeau, I can assure you that 26 million Canadians are resentful of this attempt to decide who we should trade with and you have no right, Mr. President, to tamper with our client list.

On behalf of my brothers and sisters in Canada, I urge you to respect our Canadian sovereignty and democracy.

Defiantly yours, John Rodriguez.