

To what extremes will these and other Canadian workers have to resort to next before this government acts to save their jobs and their futures.

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BALTIC STATES

Mr. Jesse Flis (Parkdale—High Park): Mr. Speaker, today, June 14, 1990, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania are commemorating the forty-ninth anniversary of the deportation of their peoples to Siberia and the fiftieth anniversary of the illegal Soviet annexation of the Baltic States by flying their national flags at half mast.

On a more positive note, however, the three Baltic States met with Mr. Gorbachev yesterday in a promising move which clearly indicates a new dedication on behalf of all parties to reach a satisfactory settlement on the question of Baltic independence.

At the same time, the announcement that Moscow has agreed to partially lift the economic sanctions against Lithuania is to be applauded.

However, the Soviets have yet to act on the promise and it is our hope that their intentions lead to a complete lifting of the blockade. Even so, Soviet border authorities continue to prevent the delivery of medical supplies that are so urgently needed.

With this in mind, I call on the Secretary of State for External Affairs to appeal to the Soviet authorities to allow the shipments of medical goods and to offer support for the negotiations for full independence of the Baltic States.

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MEECH LAKE ACCORD

Ms. Barbara Greene (Don Valley North): Mr. Speaker, as a member for Metropolitan Toronto, I want to say that I cannot think of anything I voted for in this Parliament that has been popular in Toronto.

Toronto residents feel grossly overtaxed, unappreciated, and increasingly abandoned by senior governments as they face massive social and environmental problems.

But I support programs, to help other people and to help the regions, that are not popular in Toronto,

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because I believe they are in the national interest. Under the British parliamentary system, we are elected not simply to represent our constituents but rather to deliberate and participate in formulating decisions that are in the long-term national interest.

I therefore urge all members of the provincial legislatures in New Brunswick, Newfoundland, and Manitoba to show confidence in Quebec and Canada by approving the Meech Lake Accord in the national interest.

Say "welcome" to Quebec and "yes" to Canada. Then let us all sit down and deal with other constitutional issues such as additional rights for aboriginal people, women, and minorities and of course Senate reform.

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BALTIC STATES

Mr. David Kilgour (Edmonton Southeast): Mr. Speaker, today marks the fiftieth anniversary of the terror brought down by Stalin upon Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. On this day the Soviet Union invaded, seized, and illegally incorporated all three Baltic States.

Hundreds of thousands of men, women, and children were deported to the desolate regions of the U.S.S.R. Many died on the way to the Gulag. Once there, they were subjected to inhumane living conditions, suffering under forced labour and daily hunger. In the end, as a result of these policies, fully one-third of the Baltic population perished.

The Baltic States and the restoration of their independence is one of the last crimes of World War II yet to be resolved. On this day I urge all members not only to remember this tragedy, but to actively participate in finding ways to correct this injustice.

With recent developments in Moscow there seems to be a glimmer of hope that a solution is on the way. I would join today with the Baltic peoples in Canada and across the world in their day of great sorrow and would also hope that we can proclaim it the Baltic Freedom Day.

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VETERANS AFFAIRS

Mr. Pat Sobeski (Cambridge): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Veterans Affairs had good news for veterans and