Oral Questions

THE ENVIRONMENT

DISPOSAL OF GARBAGE IN HALTON REGION

Mr. Garth Turner (Halton-Peel): Mr. Speaker, my riding is choking on garbage.

In the Halton region every bag of garbage is exported to the United States. It goes to an incinerator in New York State, an incinerator which does not meet pollution control standards in effect in Ontario. As a result, air pollutants find their way back across the border. Also, taxpayers pay \$1 million a month to export this waste.

Meanwhile, the search is on in many municipalities in Halton—Peel for a new landfill site. Millions of dollars have been wasted as communities sue each other over the proposed location of one new dump. This is, of course, environmental and economic insanity.

The greater Toronto area has a garbage crisis, and I urge the federal Government to work with regions and the local municipalities to find a solution. Let us establish a super waste management agency. Let us flex the federal muscle and break the impasse which has resulted in this embarrassing export to the United States of our own garbage.

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

ACTION AT LES ESCOUMINS

Ms. Ethel Blondin (Western Arctic): Mr. Speaker, before dawn on June 13, a large group of 40 Mounties invaded a small native reserve east of Quebec City. The RCMP drove to the community of Les Escoumins armed with search warrants, raided the Band office and retrieved boxes of documents, files and computers. The Solicitor General must explain to this House what the rationale was for this startling invasion into one of the smallest reserves in Canada.

Later another squad of police arrived with helmets, clubs and used tear gas on the reserve members. What could justify this drastic action of the RCMP at the reserve where there were as many authorities charging the community as there were residents living there? Will the Solicitor General conduct an investigation into the Mounties' actions and assure Members of this House that this type of action was indeed justified?

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

RECALL OF CANADIAN AMBASSADOR TO CHINA

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Prime Minister, may I put a question to the Deputy Prime Minister?

While we approve on this side of the House the Government's decision to recall our Ambassador to China, and I have high personal regard for Ambassador Earl Drake, it is very clear that the Chinese authorities so far have not listened to or responded to world protest.

Will the Prime Minister haul in the Chinese Ambassador to Canada and tell him personally that the Chinese Government's decision this week to hunt down those peaceful student demonstrators and treat them as war criminals is nothing short of ruthless and vile totalitarian repression?

Will the Prime Minister also tell the Chinese Ambassador personally, in the bluntest terms, that Canadians have the deepest empathy for the Chinese people and students but no sympathy at all for the police state tactics being used in such brutal fashion against the students.

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I think it is a constructive suggestion, in light of the ongoing repression in China, that the Ambassador be called in.

I will certainly communicate to him the opinion of the Government of Canada on these matters and I will underline, as the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition and other Members of this House have, that the position we are taking is emphatically not an anti-China position. We are seeking to encourage those forces of openness and democracy in China, and to protest in the strongest possible terms the repressive actions being undertaken by their Government.

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