

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 31

[*Translation*]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

Mr. François Gérin (Mégantic—Compton—Stanstead): Mr. Speaker, a week ago in New Hampshire, in the United States, a Canadian, Richard Bilodeau, was involved in a road accident which unfortunately left three people dead, including two New Hampshire policemen.

Since then, the U.S. Department of Justice has claimed, in writing besides, that the extradition treaty between Canada and the United States does not concern an individual who is accused of criminal negligence or manslaughter as a result of an automobile accident.

It is obvious, Mr. Speaker, presumably because of pressure on the New Hampshire police, and perhaps also on the judicial system, that a Canadian is treated very differently from an American, and certainly very differently from the way we here in Canada treat Americans who are involved in automobile accidents.

I ask the Minister of Justice of Canada and the Secretary of State for External Affairs to see to it that Richard Bilodeau, a Canadian citizen now held in an American prison, is treated fairly and with all the respect for his rights.

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[*English*]

REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION

Mr. Len Hopkins (Renfrew—Nipissing—Pembroke): Mr. Speaker, I have received a letter from the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion which represents yet another blow to eastern Ontario. His department is closing its economic development district office in Ottawa. This will create a great inconvenience and a lack of regional service.

Regardless of the reason given by the minister, we realize that this office is being closed because the department's financial resources have been slashed. The

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resulting change in mandate is ridiculous and insensitive to communities in this part of the province of Ontario.

In the last year alone two major plants have closed in Renfrew. Plans to eliminate thriving VIA Rail passenger service from Ottawa through Arnprior, Renfrew, Pembroke, Petawawa, Chalk River and further up the valley have been introduced. The forest industry has been attacked, and the list goes on.

This part of the province of Ontario in the east should not suffer because this government bases its decisions under the guise of dollars and cents instead of plain common sense.

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IMMIGRATION

Mr. Larry Schneider (Regina—Wascana): Mr. Speaker, over past months we have witnessed some remarkable developments throughout the East Bloc. One of the most stunning was the arrival of the freedom trains in West Germany loaded with jubilant East German refugees.

From the capital of Saskatchewan which was built by immigrants, many of them from Germany and eastern Europe, we in Regina realize that the only lasting solution to the problems in eastern Europe are to be found in real political reforms.

In the meantime we would like to do what we can to help those who have chosen a start to a new life in a free world. That is why I would like to take this opportunity to welcome those East Germans to Regina and Canada.

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EAST TIMOR

Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg Transcona): Mr. Speaker, December 7 marks the anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbour, a day which President Roosevelt predicted would be a day of infamy. He was right. It is a day of infamy, not only because of Pearl Harbour but also because of the Indonesian invasion of East Timor on December 7, 1975.

Sadly the Canadian government refuses to recognize just what the Indonesian occupation of East Timor has meant. It has meant the deaths of almost one-third of the East Timorese population; it means continued growth and systematic abusive human rights; and it