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Moves to provide sanctuary to refugees facing life threatening deportation orders can only increase as the Conservative government further restricts the asylum it provides to people fleeing persecution.

I call on the government to establish a moratorium on deportations to Nigeria until the political situation has been clarified and the outcome of the upcoming elections determined.

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[Translation]

CANADIAN FORCES

Mr. Jean-Pierre Hogue (Outremont): Mr. Speaker, last week I was in Cyprus. I would like to take the time I am allowed to say to you, and through you to all Canadians, how proud I felt while spending an evening with the Canadian soldiers who are acting as peacekeepers and peacemakers in that region.

I attended the presentation of the United Nations medals to the 3rd Battalion of the Royal 22nd Regiment. I met Lieutenant-Colonel Gagnon and I spoke with French Canadians from the Saguenay, Lac Saint-Jean, the Eastern Townships, Lac Mégantic, Laval and other regions. I listened to *O Canada* being sung in French by all those military, I saw our flag fluttering quite high and well in view, I heard the band of the 1st Battalion of The Worcestershire and Sherwood Forester Regiment play a song I had learned as a child when my mother sang it for me: *Vive la Canadienne*.

Mr. Speaker, I was proud to be a Canadian and I cried with emotion. I thank the commander of the force, his officers and all the military who gave me the opportunity to strengthen my feeling of belonging.

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[English]

OPEN HOMES CANADA

Mr. Joe Fontana (London East): Mr. Speaker, an exciting event is taking place in London, Ontario this summer which will foster the spirit of goodwill and unity in the country.

Open Homes Canada, *Bienvenue Canada*, is a unique, Canada-wide exchange program which was initiated in London, Ontario.

Londoners will be opening their homes to fellow Canadians for a four-day visit on the civic holiday weekend of August 1.

This exchange is an attempt to bring people together to share their homes, interests and activities and to understand each other better.

All MPs will be contacted by Open Homes Canada and challenged to try and send one visitor or family from their constituencies to London, Ontario.

Ordinary people from all walks of life have a crucial role to play in renewing Canada. Open Homes Canada is one way we as Canadians can be part of the unity process.

I encourage and challenge each of you to get involved and inform your constituents. With everyone's support and participation a renewed Canada may be only a weekend away.

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THE ECONOMY

Mr. Greg Thompson (Carleton—Charlotte): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Industry, Science and Technology spoke in Toronto last week with a message to Canadian business people which deserves emphasis.

The minister stated that prosperity in our country greatly hinges on increased investment levels and cited Japan as an inspiration to follow in the sense that long-term planning accomplishes a higher state of competitiveness.

Our standard of living in Canada is 25 per cent higher than that of Japan and we are second only to the United States. Therefore the benefits of increased investment by the private sector will not only maintain that standard but it will also improve upon it.

We have set an impressive record over the past 30 years by establishing the second highest economic growth rate of the G-7 nations.

These are encouraging statements made by the minister and the message is clear: Increased competitiveness is the key to future prosperity.