

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, March 10, 1978

The House met at 11 a.m.

● (1107)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

NATIONAL SECURITY

SCREENING OF SOVIET OFFICIALS IN CANADA—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Otto Jelinek (High Park-Humber Valley): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 43, I rise to propose a motion in a case of urgent and pressing necessity dealing with the fact that nearly two years ago I made public a list of 20 Soviet embassy staff employees in Ottawa, 17 of whom have been either expelled, asked not to return to Canada or replaced.

I now have a new list of 14 so-called diplomats, made available to me by the same obviously reliable sources, who are believed to be directly involved with KGB and GRU activities in Canada. I have made this list available to both the Solicitor General (Mr. Blais) and the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Jamieson). For the sake of national security, about which we are all concerned and, I believe, on behalf of members of the security forces of the RCMP, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Central Nova (Mr. MacKay):

That this House instruct the Secretary of State for External Affairs to review the status of all so-called Soviet diplomats who are directly connected with KGB or GRU espionage activities in Canada, enforce a comprehensive screening process on all new replacements entering Canada from the Soviet Union, and eliminate all further domestic travel permits for any Soviet personnel until all such matters have been cleared to the satisfaction of the RCMP.

Mr. Speaker: Presentation of such a motion for discussion, pursuant to Standing Order 43, requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE

RECEPTION FOR MUMMERS TROUPE OF ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. John C. Crosbie (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity, under the provisions of Standing Order 43. In view of the fact that the

Mummers Troupe of St. John's, Newfoundland, are to open their production "They Club Seals, Don't They?" at the National Arts Centre on Monday, March 13, with a reception after to be given by the management of the National Arts Centre for the troupe and guests, in view of the fact that the Mummers Troupe have arranged for three dozen flippers sent from Newfoundland to be cooked by the gracious wife of the member for Grand Falls-White Bay-Labrador (Mr. Rompkey) and then consumed at the reception by Newfoundlanders and other gourmets, and in view of the fact that the National Arts Centre has now advised the Mummers that they will not serve the flippers, thereby causing a crisis in that without the flippers there will be no Mummers at the reception, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Don Valley (Mr. Gillies):

That this House direct the National Arts Centre to reverse their anti-flipper decision caused by inherent effete mainland, dilettante attitudes and prejudices and to serve the flippers without any further culinary tyranny, so that they fulfil their mandate to be open to all of the people of Canada no matter what their tastes or habits, with an apology to be given by the NAC to the flipper lovers of Canada.

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NATIONAL SECURITY

CONDEMNATION OF GOVERNMENT FOR ALLEGED HARASSMENT OF MEDIA—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity, pursuant to Standing Order 43. In view of the actions of the Solicitor General (Mr. Blais) in initiating proceedings against the Ottawa offices of CTV and Global Television, and in view of the very real risk to freedom of speech and expression in this action, I would move, seconded by the hon. member for Sault Ste. Marie (Mr. Symes):

That this House endorses the position taken by the Ottawa Newspaper Guild in condemning the actions of this government and the RCMP in the harassing of journalists in the raiding of the Ottawa offices of CTV and Global Television to commandeer unused news material, thereby seriously interfering in the news-gathering and editing process. This cannot be tolerated in a free society.

Mr. Speaker: Presentation of such a motion for debate at this time requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.