

S. O. 31

EL SALVADOR

Mrs. Christine Stewart (Northumberland): Mr. Speaker, on Friday, March 17 of this year, Father Ignacio Ellacuria, the Jesuit rector of the University of Central America, told me and other members of the Mission for Peace in El Salvador that "despite appearances we in El Salvador have never been closer to peace although we have a long way to go". Father Ellacuria was internationally respected for his courageous support of the use of dialogue and negotiations to resolve the El Salvadoran conflict. We deplore the brutal and senseless murder of this man, his five colleagues and two staff by the El Salvadoran military as witnessed last week.

As a new member of the OAS, Canada must exert independent and distinctive initiatives to achieve an immediate cease-fire and a negotiated settlement to the conflict in El Salvador. "Monitoring" of the situation is insufficient and unacceptable as a Canadian response. Canada must officially take up the baton from the slain priests of El Salvador and courageously use every diplomatic facility to demonstrate its commitment to peace and the people of El Salvador. Delivery of increased humanitarian assistance through Canadian NGOs and multilateral channels must be assured.

The human rights of all, but especially of civilians, must be protected. Canadian volunteers such as Karen Ridd of Peace Brigades International must be assured safety. The U.S. must be pressured to stop its unsuccessful eight year long aid program to the El Salvador military.

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CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM

Mr. Brian O'Kurley (Elk Island): Mr. Speaker, one of the greatest challenges facing Canada today is constitutional reform. We all know that we need a strong constitutional vision of Canada and we also know that our attempt to meet this important need has been challenged. However, we cannot retreat from what we have achieved. Instead we must advance and resolve the difficult problems. We must not deny the differences among us but rather further define what is special about ourselves and our way of life.

Our challenge as nation builders is to restructure our attitudes so that we can see ourselves in terms of what we have contributed to this great nation and what we have received in return. Having accomplished this, we must work together to identify those things that as Canadians make us the same. Let us work together to find the common ground and build a strong Constitution. Let us work together for a better Canada.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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CANADIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton—Melville): Mr. Speaker, if you would permit me, I would like to raise a non-partisan topic in the House. I am sure that you are as thrilled as I am that the Saskatchewan Rough Riders thrashed the Edmonton Eskimos in the western final yesterday by a score of 32 to 31. I am sure you are as thrilled as I am too that our sometimes boastful and cocky friends have been put in their place. Perhaps your deputy could have done some good for the Edmonton Eskimos but unfortunately he was not there. Maybe even the Premier should have called in a play or two to the bench.

Now it is on to the Grey Cup and the Hamilton Tiger Cats. I cannot help but notice that the member for Hamilton East has been mumbling, moaning and muttering something about her banker. I would suggest instead of wasting the money of her banker on a race of nobodies for some dubious prize of another Albertan city in about seven months, perhaps she should put that money up front and arrange a little wager with me on the outcome of the football game and contribute the earnings of that wager to some worth-while charity. That might be more worth while.

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COPYRIGHT ACT

Ms. Barbara Greene (Don Valley North): Mr. Speaker, I urge the hon. Minister of Communications to table phase two of the Copyright Act in the House of Commons without further delay. The laws that now stand provide no exemptions for Canada's educational research and library community. Indeed, they are forced to break the law every day just as members of Parliament,