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This New York declaration calls for all states to reinforce the provisions of the Law of the Sea and to have an international conference to resolve these matters.

I would urge all hon. members to support this important resolution in order that we can safely and for the future of humanity conserve a very important resource off Canada's east coast.

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CYPRUS

Mr. Jesse Flis (Parkdale—High Park): Mr. Speaker, last week three members of this Chamber were in Washington to participate in the third annual PSEKA Conference concerning the precarious situation in Cyprus.

Lately there has been a great deal of concern about this troubled nation, particularly since Canada has maintained a UN peacekeeping presence there for 27 years and still no peaceful resolution exists on the horizon.

Last week, we heard conflicting reports from the external affairs minister and the associate defence minister disputing Canada's continued peacekeeping commitment on the island.

Certainly we all want to see a settlement in Cyprus which would be acceptable to both the Greek-Cypriot community and to the Turkish-Cypriot community.

I am concerned, however, that Canada might unilaterally and prematurely withdraw our UN forces without full consideration for the bloodshed that would surely follow.

I caution the minister of external affairs to treat the Cyprus question with better care and understanding than has been demonstrated thus far.

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[Translation]

COMMUNICATIONS AND CULTURE

Mr. Gilles Duceppe (Laurier—Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, the Standing Committee on Communications and Culture tabled its report yesterday. The report advocates federal involvement in these areas. It was signed by the Conservatives, the Liberals and the NDP. All three parties also signed the Beaudoin-Dobbie

report which favoured Quebec's exclusive jurisdiction over culture. However, the Liberal Party disagreed with this recommendation. It is clear today that the NDP and Brian Mulroney's troops have closed ranks with Jean Chrétien.

The Bélanger-Campeau commission and the Allaire report advocated Quebec's exclusive jurisdiction over both culture and communications. Ottawa ignores and challenges Quebec's position, all of which is reflected in the report as well as in Bill C-62, which was condemned by Quebec Minister Lawrence Cannon. These two examples prove once again that Ottawa has been wilfully misleading Quebec. Quebecers will not tolerate this political manoeuvring, whose sole aim is to strengthen Ottawa's centralizing powers while giving the impression there will be a genuine opening up as regards the distribution of powers.

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[English]

SIGNS OF HOPE, SEA TO SEA

Mr. Stan Darling (Parry Sound—Muskoka): Mr. Speaker, I believe my constituents of Parry Sound—Muskoka are among the most environmentally responsible in Canada.

The prospect of a clean and safe environmental future rests with Canada's youth. Accordingly, elementary and secondary school students in my riding will be making a major contribution to Earth Day on April 22, 1992.

David Whiteside, a teacher at Muskoka Lake Secondary School, is the motivating force behind a student recording of an original song entitled *Signs of Hope, Sea to Sea*.

Over 14,000 cassette tapes have been mailed to every school in Canada so students from coast to coast can join together in a national chorus of environmentalism.

I encourage all members of the House to promote the playing of this song in the schools and on the radio stations in their own constituencies on Earth Day.

I know my fellow members join me in offering hearty congratulations to the dedicated students and teachers of Muskoka on their worthy endeavour.

I would like to thank the Minister of the Environment for a generous contribution of \$8,000 to this project.