

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, February 15, 1982

The House met at 2 p.m.

● (1405)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

CANADIAN ARMED FORCES

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES' RECOMMENDATIONS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Stan Darling (Parry Sound-Muskoka): Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43. Within the past two months two committees of Parliament, one from this House and one from the other place, presented separate reports on the status of Canada's regular and reserve military forces. Both reports provided in some detail the need to strengthen and improve immediately the military, which is undermanned, ill-equipped, underfunded, and lacking in planning and direction. In light of the fact that the decline of the military over past years is the direct result of deliberate neglect by this government, and that both reports urge the government to give priority attention to our defence forces, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Simcoe North (Mr. Lewis):

That the Prime Minister order the Minister of National Defence to prepare and table a new white paper on defence as soon as possible and that the Prime Minister publicly and immediately announce his commitment to the enhancement of the status, capability and role of the regular and reserve forces in Canada.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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THE HONOURABLE MEMBER FOR WINNIPEG NORTH CENTRE

CONGRATULATIONS ON CONVALESCENCE—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): Madam Speaker, I am moving a motion under the provisions of Standing Order 43 that I hope and assume will be agreed to by members on all sides. Considering that the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) is well on the road to recovery and

today, for the first time in months, is able to watch the proceedings of the House of Commons from his home, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Beaches (Mr. Young):

That this House congratulates Stanley Knowles on his remarkable recuperative abilities and wishes him a speedy return to his seat in this chamber.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Madam Speaker: Does the House agree to the motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

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HOUSING

DEMAND FOR REVERSAL OF GOVERNMENT POLICY—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Dave Nickerson (Western Arctic): Madam Speaker, whereas there is an immediate need in Canada for a quarter of a million new housing units, and whereas the outlook for 1982 is the worst in 20 years, with starts of only 150,000 being forecast, I move, seconded by the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath):

That this House demands an immediate reversal of the Liberal government's policy of forcing Canadians to go homeless while workers in the construction and forest industries go unemployed.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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DISASTERS

SINKING OF "OCEAN RANGER" DRILLING RIG OFF NEWFOUNDLAND—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Roger Simmons (Burin-St. George's): Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of great tragedy to the people of Newfoundland. It is not yet known if there are survivors from the *Ocean Ranger* drilling rig operating off the coast of Newfoundland. However, I have been assured by the authorities in charge that all rescue efforts