

*S. O. 21*

I ask all Hon. Members to consider that Parliament and many other institutions across the country contribute to the problem of the depletion of the ozone layer by persistent use of styrofoam cups and foam plastic containers.

I ask you, Mr. Speaker, and other Members of the House to consider whether or not in the very short future we, as the House of Commons, the Parliament of Canada, could set an example for what Canadians could do collectively and individually in the short term in respect of this environmental problem, and consider the use of alternatives in this case.

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**HUMAN RIGHTS****ARRIVAL OF DANYLO SHUMUK IN CANADA—ROLE PLAYED BY MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT**

**Mr. Vince Dantzer (Okanagan North):** Mr. Speaker, for many years the imprisonment of Mr. Danylo Shumuk, a Ukrainian dissident, was a matter of concern in the House. The Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Clark) and other Members of Parliament, including myself, brought his plight to the attention of the Canadian people and the Soviet authorities on many occasions.

Mr. Shumuk was the longest prisoner of conscience in history, having spent over 40 years in Nazi and Soviet prison camps.

This past Saturday I had the pleasure of welcoming Mr. Shumuk to Canada on behalf of the Canadian Government. He will be living with his nephew and family in Lumby, a community in my riding of Okanagan North.

Upon his arrival, Mr. Shumuk acknowledged publicly his debt of gratitude to the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney), and particularly to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, as well as to other Members of Parliament who supported his cause. He said:

I came to Canada because freedom is the very essence of life. I have abandoned my own country. I came because I was not free. I am here because, despite all my losses, I gained freedom which means everything to me.

Members of this House can be proud of the role they played in helping Mr. Shumuk achieve that freedom.

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[Translation]

**CHILDREN****NATIONAL MISSING CHILDREN'S DAY**

**Mrs. Lucie Pépin (Outremont):** Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, May 24, the Child-Find organization released 15,000 balloons

in Montreal on the occasion of National Missing Children's Day. A photograph of a missing child was attached to each balloon. Several fathers and mothers launched balloons bearing photographs of their own children. The release of these balloons was a very moving moment for all who took part in a ceremony that was repeated in all Canadian communities where Child-Find is represented.

Mr. Speaker, sad to say, a considerable proportion of missing children are children who have been abducted by their own parents. Abduction of a child is illegal and should not be condoned, whether by strangers or by a divorced parent.

Although the Divorce Act has been amended, it does not have enough clout to prevent this kind of thing from happening. We think it is important for the Government to act with greater firmness in this area.

I therefore urge the Government to act quickly to enforce the new Divorce Act more rigorously, in order to stop the abduction of children, and I also recommend setting up follow-up and support programs for the parents of missing children.

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**CANADA-FRANCE RELATIONS****IMPACT OF VISIT BY PRESIDENT OF FRANCE**

**Mr. Clément M. Côté (Lac-Saint-Jean):** Mr. Speaker, yesterday, we had the pleasure of welcoming to the House Mr. François Mitterand, President of the Republic of France. The speech he gave on this occasion was one of the best speeches we have heard here for some time. I may add that his speech and his visit mark a major chapter in our history, and I am convinced that there will be lasting benefits as a result of this visit by France's number one man.

Personally, and as Chairman of the Canada-France Interparliamentary Association, I am delighted with the new direction that Mr. Mitterand's visit has given to relations between our two countries, and I trust that in future, they will draw their inspiration from the humanitarian ideals of this great politician.

Friday, I am going to France to head the Canadian delegation to the Twentieth Annual Meeting of the Canada-France Interparliamentary Association. I may say that after the President's speech, I am looking forward with even greater enthusiasm to this official visit.