

prisoner of war who served in the theatre of war under the most dangerous conditions and who, while incarcerated, received harsh treatment. He is not entitled to the Veterans Independence Program because it was not included in the order. To emphasize that fact, I had a letter from a Mrs. Coughlin. She wrote to me on behalf of her husband in January requesting assistance for the Veterans Independence Program as a recipient of POW compensation. Of course, he was ineligible because what he received through the War Veterans Allowance exceeded the maximum allowable for qualification. This veteran received the War Veterans Allowance, and the maximum allowable is now \$1,262 per month if the veteran is married. Because he was entitled to Workmen's Compensation, he was brought over the maximum allowable, and removed his eligibility for the Veterans Independence Program.

● (1130)

This veteran died in bitterness, and his wife states in the letter that he died always wondering why he was not entitled to VIP. He asked one of the district office staff members whom he visited the following question: "When am I going to be classified as something other than a prisoner of war who did his country a disservice by being taken a prisoner?"

Honourable senators, this aspect of the matter emphasizes the justification for calling the report "It's Almost Too Late". Veterans today do not have many more years to live. Fifty-odd years after the Second World War we should not be too proud of the fact that there are cases such as those I mentioned which require recommendations to give the veterans the deserving benefits that are due them and their spouses after they die.

**The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore:** Honourable senators, when shall this report be taken into consideration?

On motion of Senator Marsden, report placed on the Orders of the Day for consideration at the next sitting of the Senate.

#### EUROPEAN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT BILL

TENTH REPORT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE PRESENTED

**Hon. John B. Stewart,** Chairman of the Standing Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs, presented the following report:

Thursday, January 31, 1991

The Standing Senate committee on Foreign Affairs has the honour to present its

#### TENTH REPORT

Your Committee to which was referred the Bill C-88, An Act to provide for the membership of Canada in the European Bank for reconstruction and Development, has, in obedience to its Order of Reference of Tuesday, January 29, 1991, examined the said Bill and now reports the same without amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN B. STEWART  
Chairman

[Senator Marshall.]

**The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore:** Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the third time?

**Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government):** Honourable senators, further to the remarks made earlier, I move, with leave, that third reading be given to the bill now.

**Senator Doody:** This is Bill C-88, having to do with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

**Senator Frith:** But leave was not granted for the other one.

**Senator Doody:** The first bill for which I asked leave was a private members bill. I am not going to suggest that we hold the Senate back for it. It may well be an important bill, but nevertheless I do not think it is that important. What I am saying is that if leave is not granted now—which, of course, is every senator's right—then I will move that third reading be given to the bill at the next sitting of the Senate.

**The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore:** Is leave granted, honourable senators?

**Senator Frith:** No. Next sitting.

On motion of Senator Doody, bill placed on the Orders of the Day for third reading at the next sitting of the Senate.

● (1140)

#### INTERNATIONAL SALE OF GOODS CONTRACTS CONVENTION BILL

THIRTY-FOURTH REPORT OF LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE PRESENTED

**Hon. Nathan Nurgitz,** Chairman of the Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs, presented the following report:

Thursday, January 31, 1991

The Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs has the honour to present its

#### THIRTY-FOURTH REPORT

Your Committee, to which was referred the Bill C-81, An Act to implement the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods, has in obedience to the Order of Reference of Wednesday, December 19, 1990, examined the said Bill and now reports the same without amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

NATHAN NURGITZ  
Chairman

**The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore:** Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the third time?