

had been refused a place on a waiting list for a lung transplant apparently because he has Down's Syndrome.

Terry Urquhart, a Special Olympics winner, has led a positive and fruitful life within the parameters of his disability. This child and others like him are not to be denied the right, and it is a right, to the same medical treatment and procedures that any other Canadian is entitled to. I was very pleased to learn the hospital has reversed its decision and I compliment it for that.

I am very alarmed about possible implications of this incident on the lives of the disabled. I call on the decision or policy makers in similar situations to immediately reconsider such ill conceived positions. I call on the health minister and the justice minister to ensure this is done.

Let there be no misunderstanding, let there be no mistake, Canada does not have one set of rules for persons with disabilities and another for those without. All Canadians are equal. Discrimination in any form is unacceptable.

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GERMANY

Mr. John Harvard (Winnipeg St. James, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, as chair of the German-Canadian Friendship Group, I am pleased to have this opportunity to welcome the vice president of the German Bundestag, Hans-Ulrich Klose and fellow delegates.

I am delighted the delegation is able to come to Canada. I hope it enjoys Canadian hospitality and learns about our great country. Canada shares a long history with Germany, a relationship which has grown and strengthened in recent years.

I would like to thank Germany for its support and leadership with the EU councils. Germans have made every effort to help find a solution to the fish crisis which will help preserve the fish stocks on the Grand Banks of Newfoundland.

In 1994 the German presidency of the EU worked more closely with Canada than ever before. Also, thanks to the strength of the Deutschmark, there were more German tourists visiting Canada in 1994 than ever before.

In the name of friendship and continued relations, Willkommen zu Kanada.

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CORPORAL NEIL BERNARD MCKINNON

Mr. Ron MacDonald (Dartmouth, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, on March 27 Corporal Neil Bernard McKinnon was killed in a training accident at Canadian Forces Base Suffield. Warrant Officer Kirk Drew suffered serious injuries in this unfortunate

accident. Both men were members of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry.

Corporal McKinnon was only 24 years old. He served Canada proudly and well as a peacekeeper during two tours of duty in the former Yugoslavia, far away from his home and his family in Sydney River, Nova Scotia. It saddens us all that he paid the ultimate price in service to his country. He truly will be missed.

I ask members of the House to join me in offering our condolences to Neil's family and to wish Warrant Officer Drew a speedy recovery from his injuries.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

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[Translation]

REFUGEE RIGHTS DAY

Mr. Osvaldo Nunez (Bourassa, BQ): Mr. Speaker, Refugee Rights Day is celebrated every year in Canada on April 4, to commemorate the *Singh* judgment. This year we commemorate the tenth anniversary of a decision by the Supreme Court of Canada to extend the application of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms to refugees.

One hundred and twenty-five million people have had to leave their countries or towns as a result of ethnic conflict or civil war, including 23 million refugees who are victims of persecution.

● (1405)

Considering the current backlash against refugees in Canadian public opinion, the government should start a campaign to make the public aware of our responsibility to welcome these people and aware of the need for openness and tolerance and of Canada's international obligations to refugees.

I want to express my support for and solidarity with refugees and the organizations dedicated to defending them.

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[English]

FISHERIES

Mr. Keith Martin (Esquimalt—Juan de Fuca, Ref.): Mr. Speaker, for the last 15 years warnings have trumpeted the fact that the west coast fishery was heading into trouble. Therefore, it came as no surprise that the Fraser report concluded the Department of Fisheries and Oceans was completely out of touch with the reality of what happened to the salmon stocks returning for spawning. That fact had been backed up by numerous task forces in the past and continues to this day.

I implore the minister to go back to the generalist format for the DFO officers, to listen to the DFO officers who are working in the trenches, not necessarily the bureaucracy, to enforce the