

## S.O. 21

guidance system under completely different conditions contribute to NATO defence in Europe?

The weapon we are testing is not a theatre weapon, but a strategic weapon carried by a B-52 bomber. The guidance system needs of the ground launched Cruise to be deployed in Europe do not require the kind of flight testing we are proposing. The Government should not use, as its basis for testing, the NATO agreement of 1979, but rather make it quite clear that we are testing a strategic weapon to be used over the polar regions. If our NATO commitment is our concern, better we should expend our energies improving our conventional forces, and especially our marine command.

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## ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

## APPEAL OF ACQUITTAL IN NOVA SCOTIA HOMICIDE CASE

**Mrs. Jennifer Cossitt (Leeds-Grenville):** Madam Speaker, I rise to protest the horrendous decision by the Department of the Attorney General of Nova Scotia to appeal a verdict of not guilty of first-degree murder handed down to Jane Stafford, who shot her wife-beating husband. Strong evidence from 16 witnesses brought to light the torturous mental and physical abuse this lady suffered from her husband for five excruciatingly long years, abuse and suffering that go beyond comprehension, at the hands of a man whose home local RCMP were instructed not to go near unless armed and ready to shoot, a man whom witnesses testified as having beaten and abused two previous wives, and children, and beat Jane Stafford to the point of unconsciousness on a number of occasions, a man who threatened and attempted to kill his wife, her parents, and her sister.

Jane Stafford, fighting for survival, has already received enough punishment—five long years of painful mental and physical punishment—and it appears the Department of the Attorney General of Nova Scotia wants her punished further. I believe, and I am sure everyone in this Chamber would agree, this lady was more than justified in her actions to protect herself and her son from the terrifying onslaught of repeated assault. I would therefore call upon the Minister of Justice (Mr. MacGuigan) to take a giant step for battered wives all across Canada and give them the courage to take legal action, by intervening on behalf of Mrs. Stafford and assuring that her acquittal stands.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

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● (1110)

## CHINESE NEW YEAR

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS OF CANADIANS OF CHINESE ORIGIN

**Mrs. Margaret Mitchell (Vancouver East):** Madam Speaker, *gung hai fat choy*—Happy Chinese New Year.

One hundred and twenty-five years ago the first Chinese community was established in Canada. Men laboured in northern mines hoping to find a better life in the Golden Mountain. Many labourers gave their lives to build our railways which united British Columbia to Canada.

Life was hard and lonely for those men who struggled to support their families in China. Their widows, many of whom lived in Toronto and Vancouver, also suffered great hardships so their children could progress.

Early laws such as the discriminatory Exclusion Act prevented family reunification. It was not until 1949 that Asian people gained the right to vote in Canada. CCF-NDP elected representatives were in the vanguard fighting for these rights.

Canadians of Chinese origin have contributed much to Canada through business, the professions, and higher education. Their strong family life has been a model for Canadian society for four generations. Thriving communities have been rebuilt in our inner cities with new cultural centres to honour and share a rich Chinese heritage. Many organizations provide mutual and community services. Communities across Canada have joined together to protect minority rights.

On behalf of all Members of Parliament we extend best wishes across Canada for a Happy Chinese New Year.

*Gung hai fat choy* for the Year of the Pig.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

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## TOURISM

## TORONTO CONVENTION CENTRE DEVELOPMENT

**Miss Aideen Nicholson (Trinity):** Madam Speaker, some 42 million visitors from outside the Province spent more than \$2 billion in Ontario in 1982, and the tourism industry last year provided 500,000 people in Ontario with either direct or indirect employment.

This week federal contributions of up to \$23 million were announced toward the building of the Toronto Convention Centre, which will not only create 2,500 needed construction jobs in Toronto but is also estimated to have the potential to create up to 10,000 jobs in the service industry in southern Ontario.

Representing, as I do, a constituency where many people are employed in the hospitality industry and in construction, I am particularly pleased to see this development which is the result of considerable co-operation and hard work on the part of federal, provincial, and municipal politicians, and industry and labour representatives.