

That the Secretary of State for External Affairs be called on by this House to make an early statement on motions outlining the steps which have been taken by the government to ensure the safety of Canadians in Lebanon, both those attached to the embassy and those living in a private capacity in Lebanon.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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DISARMAMENT

EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT FOR WORLD-WIDE MOVEMENT—
MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Madam Speaker, whereas many thousands of Americans and Canadians, through peaceful demonstrations this weekend, joined in the world-wide demand for disarmament, and since a similar demonstration in the U.S.S.R. was prevented by harassment and police actions, including arrests, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Oshawa (Mr. Broadbent):

That this House express its support for world-wide disarmament, starting with the super powers, and call upon all nations to allow the people of this planet to demonstrate their belief that potential mass murder is not a deterrent but does represent a threat to all of humanity.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

STATEMENT MADE BY PRIME MINISTER—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Madam Speaker, "weasel words", cried the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), after the communique was released to the press following the NATO meeting in Bonn last week. What did the communique say? It urged the Kremlin "to join us now in search for constructive relations, arms reductions and world peace"; it pledged "to improve NATO armed forces", and it emphasized its eagerness to negotiate "substantial reductions in arms with the Soviet Union". Why did the Prime Minister not object during the meeting, and what is it that he does not like about the communique? I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Simcoe South (Mr. Stewart):

That this House wants to know which side the Prime Minister is on. Canadians want no stock or trade with the communists, and the Prime Minister, when out of Canada, should be telling the world what Canadians think and want. It is certainly not a socialist republic, toward which he is working.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Oral Questions

Some hon. Members: No.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

THE ECONOMY

EXCHANGE VALUE OF DOLLAR—REQUEST FOR CHANGE IN
ECONOMIC POLICY

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Leader of the Opposition): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister will know that today the dollar has fallen to another record low. He may well know that, in the time that he has been out of the country, nearly 1,000 Canadian businesses went bankrupt and 12,000 Canadians per day lost their jobs, for a total of 12,000 Canadians put out of work during the Prime Minister's absence from Canada. Will the Prime Minister tell the House of Commons, now that he knows some of the disastrous results of his economic policy, whether his government will be announcing a major change in economic policy before this House rises?

• (1415)

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Trudeau:—the Leader of the Opposition refers to the fall of the Canadian dollar. I would point out to him, as has been pointed out to him and other members of his party several times over the past week, it is true that the Canadian dollar has fallen against the American dollar, but so has just about every other major currency fallen against the American dollar in that period. If you look at the Canadian dollar relative to those other currencies, you will find that the Canadian dollar has strengthened.

For example, in the past week the Canadian dollar has fallen by 1.4 against the American dollar, the Japanese yen by 2.2, the deutschmark by 1.7, the Swiss franc by 2.0, the French franc by 7.3, the Italian lira by three points, all compared to 1.4 for the Canadian dollar, and so it goes. The only major currency which has not fallen as much as the Canadian currency is the Dutch gilder which fell by 1.3 as opposed to 1.4 for the Canadian dollar. Therefore the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition should keep that in mind when he looks at the performance of the Canadian dollar compared to the American dollar.

Once again, it is true that our dollar has fallen compared to the American dollar, but I repeat, so has every other currency. The conclusion in the mind of the Leader of the Opposition should be that actions taken in Canada alone will not correct economic circumstances in Japan, Germany, Switzerland,