

## S. Q. 21

fact that the two most powerful men on this earth can come to an agreement.

I publicly applaud the open-mindedness which now exists in the USSR thanks the new Soviet leader Mr. Gorbachev. I hope that this openness to new ideas will meet a corresponding attitude in the Western world.

[English]

I hope that this would only be the first step toward the real summit of total disarmament, the real summit toward better comprehension and a better world.

By being negative that we will not help bring sanity to this planet that we want to see survive. We must concentrate first on disarmament. I do not think it is fair to be negative, negative, "niet, niet", when Gorbachev says he would like to restructure his country and show openness to the West. Some say it is a bluff. I say let us it and see how far we can go in cooperation at this most important time.

I can assure my colleagues who spoke before me that millions of young people see this as a hope. When there is a hope, I join in sharing that hope.

\* \* \*

[Translation]

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

## POSITION OF HAITIAN COMMUNITY IN MONTREAL

**Hon. Suzanne Blais-Grenier (Rosemont):** Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, November 29, more than 700 people lost their lives in Haiti. The *Front national de concertation*, consisting of members of the Haitian community of Montreal, has asked me to speak on their behalf today in the House.

The Haitian people have lost all confidence in Colonel Namphy's National Council and ask that he be immediately replaced by a national coalition government consisting of the five major opposition leaders.

Furthermore, the Haitian community in Montreal asks that the nine-member Provisional Electoral Council that was dissolved by Colonel Namphy be reinstated. Only then will our community in Montreal be able to trust our Government and have faith in its firm resolve to promote and work out a democratic solution to defuse the present crisis in Haiti.

The Government of Canada is asked to terminate all financial aid to Haiti until it is convinced this aid is not being diverted by the present government to purposes other than originally intended.

Furthermore, the Haitian community has lost confidence in the Canadian Ambassador, Mr. Laverdure, and prefers to see

the political situation in Haiti assessed by grass roots groups and the Church, and it wants the Canadian Government to demonstrate its clear intention of supporting these organizations.

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[English]

## DISARMAMENT

## SIGNING OF U.S.A.—U.S.S.R. AGREEMENT

**Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg—Birds Hill):** Mr. Speaker, I would have thought that today would have been a day on which we could all join together in welcoming and celebrating what is happening in Washington. I remind those who want to keep their powder dry that there are still enough nuclear weapons in the world to kill us all 10 times over.

I was to begin by saying that I hoped I spoke for all Members of Parliament. Perhaps I should revise that by saying I hope I speak for most Members of Parliament when I say that we join with people all around the world who today are looking to the meeting between Ronald Reagan and Mikhael Gorbachev as the beginning of a new day in Soviet-U.S. relations and new hope for the future of the world.

The agreement to be signed is a first, in that it eliminates a whole class of nuclear weapons, but it must become the building block upon which future agreements to rid the world eventually of nuclear weapons are built. Otherwise, it will have been an occasion for false hope.

Congratulations are in order to both leaders, both of whom seem to have transcended, hopefully for good, the traditional thinking which has so imprisoned them and their military industrial complexes. I hope Mr. Reagan will be able to transcend his current view on star wars as well.

I am not a fan of the President, as is well known, but give credit where credit is due. It is in the recent attacks by the maniacal American right against President Reagan for signing this agreement that we see the "evil empire" that still lurks in far too many American hearts and minds. President Reagan should pay no more heed to them than General Secretary Gorbachev should pay to those who oppose *glasnost* or *perestroika*.

• (1410)

Now, if they would each agree to be as wise about Nicaragua and Afghanistan, respectively, we would have something else to celebrate.

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