

## PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS—HELSINKI AGREEMENT—METHOD OF DETERMINING EXTENT TO WHICH COMMITMENTS FULFILLED

**Hon. Stanley Haidasz (Parkdale):** Mr. Speaker, on November 19, 1975, I directed a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. MacEachen) asking whether his department or any other arm of the federal government has established any plan to follow closely the Final Act of the Conference on European Security and Co-operation signed in Helsinki on August 1, 1975, in order to find out to what extent the commitments of the 35 signatory countries are being fulfilled or violated.

● (2200)

I rise tonight at this late hour to give the minister or his spokesman a greater opportunity to reply fully to my question in which many Canadians are most interested, and a question left substantially unanswered two weeks ago.

If this conference is to be a success, the signatories of the Final Act must live up to their declarations and commitments. To accomplish this, a method of monitoring the fulfillments and violations must be established and carried out carefully on a systematic and regular basis. Otherwise there is the possibility that representatives of ministers of foreign affairs assembling in Belgrade on June 15, 1977, may show up unprepared or negatively disposed, which would be most unfortunate and deplorable.

Interested and concerned citizens of today as well as future generations will judge our governments and our leaders not by words or promises, but by actions performed and by promises kept. Judgment of the value of the lengthy CSCE will depend on the extent to which the responsible government authorities will seriously identify instances of genuine and substantial implementation of the provisions of the Final Act by its signatories, notably the major powers of Europe.

I would like to propose that the federal government demonstrate its serious intentions and genuine concern by establishing without delay methods of monitoring compliance with the CSCE Final Act provisions by instructing our ambassadors in Europe to redouble representations to their host governments concerning implementation activities, for example in the humanitarian matter of unification of families and by instructing our embassies in Europe to report in a systematic and comprehensive fashion on the degree to which provisions of the Final Act have been implemented or violated.

Similar instructions may be given to the appropriate federal ministries and Canadian representatives on international agencies such as the United Nations, UNESCO, NATO and others. Furthermore, special interdepartmental committees, federal and provincial human rights commissions, ombudsmen, a special branch of the federal-provincial secretariat and interested non-governmental organiza-

### Adjournment Debate

tions should be established, if non-existent, and should be fully informed about the details of the Final Act and asked to forward to the Secretary of State for External Affairs their views and assessment with regard to the implementation or violation of the Final Act provisions. Canada should also consider proposing some amendments to the Final Act such as non-interference of mail and freedom of travel in a country by tourists as well as citizens.

I hope that the Secretary of State for External Affairs during the forthcoming NATO ministerial meeting will discuss with all members of the alliance the need for consultation and co-operation in following developments in this field. In particular, Canada should take proper initiatives to re-assemble the Geneva Conference on Mutual and Balanced Force Reductions in Eastern and Central Europe. As Canada has already unilaterally halved its NATO forces and delayed a modernization of its equipment, it should press the opposing side to demonstrate their commitment to disengagement or else détente becomes just a one-way street or an empty word.

Canada has invested a great deal in the CSCE. Though separated from Europe by the Atlantic Ocean, Canadians are deeply conscious that the fortunes of this continent have moulded our fate through history. Many events in Europe influence Canada and its people who seek peace and justice for all nations. For these reasons, Canadians want the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe to be a success.

Given the quantity of information already available and that could be properly compiled by the methods I have mentioned, there is every hope and reason to believe that we and other countries of good will should be in an excellent position to arrive at a well-informed assessment of the implementation of the Final Act provisions by the time of the review meeting scheduled for June, 1977, in Belgrade.

**Mr. Paul E. McRae (Parliamentary Secretary to Postmaster General):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of the minister, who is absent, and the parliamentary secretary, who is out of the country, to compliment the hon. member for Parkdale (Mr. Haidasz) for once again indicating the importance of the Helsinki conference and for his suggestions about follow up and about where the conference should eventually lead.

Canada considers that effective follow-up to the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe will be important and will ultimately be the measure of its success or failure. We are concerned that all parts of the Final Act should be implemented, but are particularly concerned about those which deal with the freer movement of people and ideas and with confidence building measures, such as advance notification of military manoeuvres. Canada is monitoring the implementation of these provisions closely. Positive developments in the area of freer movement of people and ideas will provide us with an indication whether détente is being given a human dimension, and a positive response to the commitments on confidence building measures will provide us with a signal that the spirit of Helsinki also extends to the military sphere.

Parts of the text have already begun to be implemented. The NATO countries have notified the other participating states in accordance with the commitments on confidence