

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, October 3, 1990

The House met at 2 p.m.

Prayers

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 31

[*English*]

THE LATE MARNIE KIMELMAN

Ms. Barbara Greene (Don Valley North): Mr. Speaker, in August, I visited the beach in Israel where, on July 28, 1990, Marnie Kimelman of North York was fatally injured by the vicious irrational actions of a Palestinian terrorist.

Marnie was 17, intelligent, attractive, concerned, and compassionate. She was known by her friends as the peace lady. Marnie would have made a tremendous contribution to our society, to Israel which she loved, and possibly to a just and lasting reconciliation with the Palestinian people. Her death and that of other innocent victims of terror in Israel must strengthen the resolve of all fair-minded and peace-loving people to find a lasting peace settlement.

It should also strengthen our resolve as a country not to deal with terrorists. If the PLO leadership do not condemn and dissociate themselves from such acts, we should not give them credibility by official interaction with them.

* * *

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND FERRY SERVICE

Ms. Catherine Callbeck (Malpeque): Mr. Speaker, this summer a federal environmental panel ruled against the government's proposal for a fixed link between New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

A new proposal may or may not be forthcoming. But even if a new fixed link proposal is approved, it could be the year 2000 before the first car drives across the strait.

That is why the federal government must continue to meet its constitutional obligation to provide adequate ferry service between the mainland and Prince Edward Island.

As the rising ferry traffic continues to put a strain on ferry capacity, the adequacy of this service is in serious doubt. For almost two years now, I have been pressing the government to act on this important transportation issue which affects all sectors of our economy.

Once again, I urge the government to give its Crown corporation, Marine Atlantic, the green light to proceed with plans for a new ferry. The time for action is now.

* * *

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg Transcona): Mr. Speaker, last week we learned that, at the powerhouse of the CN shops in Transcona, CN knowingly allowed workers to be exposed to asbestos for a period of several weeks over the summer.

When CN asked workers to remove some insulation from one of the boilers, an employee asked what was being removed and was told by management that whatever it was, it was safe. Only then did CN send a sample of this material to a government lab and was told in July that there as asbestos in the insulation. However, CN did nothing to protect the workers until the middle of September, when an employee asked to see the lab report. The negligence of CN in this affair is shocking.

The asbestos is now being professionally dealt with, thanks to the union's press conference on the matter, but we must still find out how this was allowed to happen. To this end, I wrote to both the Ministers of Labour and Transport, backing the union call for a parliamentary inquiry.

CN may finally be dealing with the asbestos properly, but the government has yet to deal with Labour Canada for its negligence in ignoring union concerns throughout the summer and conducting an inspection only after the union press conference. The parliamentary committee