

*Oral Questions***HUMAN RIGHTS**

EL SALVADOR—GOVERNMENT'S TREATMENT OF CHURCH REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Dan Heap (Spadina): Mr. Speaker, the Government of Napoleon Duarte in El Salvador continues to lose credibility and support. It is now attacking church figures, including even the Archbishop, by accusing his organization of funnelling money to the FMLN. A prisoner of the Treasury Police has also denounced an Episcopalian priest, a pastor of the Lutheran Church, an administrator in the Lutheran Church, an official of the Baptist Church, and a program worker of the Roman Catholic Diocese.

The indications are that many of Duarte's colleagues will use aid money from other countries such as Canada to build bases for themselves in the next elections when Duarte is no longer considered a viable candidate.

● (1115)

The European Community has a joint policy of all the European Community countries toward all of Central America, through which it apportions financial and other kinds of development aid. I urge Canada to consider consulting with the European Community before continuing with aid to such a weak and violent Government as the Duarte Government.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRESENCE IN GALLERY OF VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. Speaker: May I draw the attention of Hon. Members to the presence in our gallery today of Mr. George Bush, Vice-President of the United States of America.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

PRESENCE IN GALLERY OF MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS OF TURKEY

Mr. Speaker: I also wish to draw the attention of Hon. Members to the presence in the gallery of Mr. Veysel Atasoy, Minister of Transport and Communications of Turkey.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

APARTHEID

SOUTH AFRICA—IMPOSITION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Deputy Prime Minister in the

absence of the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for External Affairs. It has to do with the rapidly deteriorating situation in South Africa. He knows, and the Prime Minister knows, that there is now a state of emergency there. One thousand political prisoners are being held, there are riots, and they have press censorship. That regime is offending humanity and what is happening in South Africa demands a response, I believe, from this country.

My question is the same question that Bishop Tutu is asking. When is the world going to act? My question to the Deputy Prime Minister, and through him to the Prime Minister of our country, is when is Canada going to act?

Hon. Erik Nielsen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, Canada has taken a leadership role in acting with respect to the South African situation.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nielsen: Announcements to that end were made last July and they were made again in the House yesterday by the Secretary of State for External Affairs. He also discussed frankly with the House the wide range of options that were still left and would be pursued by Canada if necessary.

[Translation]

IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS—REQUEST FOR CONSULTATION

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, does the Deputy Prime Minister realize that the Prime Minister should act now and intervene personally to persuade the British Government, that today he should take advantage of the U.S. Vice-President's visit, and that he should also intervene to persuade the Government of West Germany, thus urging all three countries to agree, with Canada, on imposing severe economic sanctions on South Africa?

[English]

Hon. Erik Nielsen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, I think the right hon. gentleman would agree with me that there is a very worthwhile objective here in making every endeavour to ensure that the Commonwealth remains united and to ensure that as many western nations as possible act in concert with Canada with respect to the lead that Canada has taken.

The Prime Minister has already, as the House was informed yesterday, commenced the process of communicating with the Heads of other Governments to achieve the very purpose which the right hon. gentleman says is desirable.

REQUEST THAT GOVERNMENT REASSES SITUATION

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, the Secretary of State for External Affairs told us yesterday that the Government was awaiting the Commonwealth meeting in August. We take the position that that is too long. The situation is deteriorating rapidly. The Right Hon. Malcolm Fraser, former Prime Minister of Australia and co-