

worked. It was an initiative of the Conservative Government carried on by the succeeding Government. It was successful because the refugees came into the country in an orderly process, were sponsored in an orderly way and, therefore, cared for in an orderly way.

If the Member wants to do some research, he would find that the refugees who were sponsored by churches, service clubs, and other such agencies made the most successful transition into Canadian society of any refugees who came into Canada. It was a very good program.

He asks why the matter of 300 people coming in by boat is a panic. In itself it is not. However, the day after the *Amelie* discharged its passengers on the Nova Scotia coast that made television news and front page headlines and pictures in Bangkok. I do not have to draw pictures for the Member. It so happens that Thailand is sanctuary for one of the largest refugee populations in the world.

Three hundred is not a panic, but there are 15 million refugees in the world and another 60 million to 70 million economic migrants, all of whom have now heard about Canada as a safe haven. It is a panic if the signal has gone throughout the world via electronic media that simply by chartering a boat you can land on the shores of Canada and beat the system. That becomes a cause of concern.

I think the Hon. Member knows that most of the people who came on the *Amelie* spent a number of years in Germany. Some of them were already declared refugees. He knows that the United Nations Commission on Refugees says that if you have already determined refugee status in a country the next host country does not have to accept you as a refugee. If they had gained refugee status in the Federal Republic of Germany, how could they be declared refugees from there to come to Canada?

**Mr. Marchi:** That is why we have a process.

**Mr. Friesen:** He says that that is what the process is for. I thought that they had already gone through the process and were already declared refugees in Germany. It seems to me that that is the nature of the fraud with which we are dealing. They give the impression that they have been fleeing from oppression, when actually they are coming from a very hospitable country which, incidentally, harboured 100,000 refugees in 1986, with a bill of \$1.3 billion U.S.

• (1550)

West Germany has been very kind to refugees. I might add that it is because of the experience of West Germany, France and other European countries, and the fact that they have been facing this kind of abuse, that they have restricted entry into their countries. As a result of that, those who want to migrate around the world and look for a best haven have seen Canada as a good place to go. That is why this legislation is necessary. There are many people, such as the captain of the *Amelie*, who are willing to take money from those who are suffering

anguish, and truck in that kind of human misery. That is why it is a serious issue.

**Mr. Orlikow:** Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member knows that when the original Bill was before the House earlier it was condemned by organizations, including church organizations, community organizations, ethnic and labour organizations representing millions of people.

The Mennonite Church, the Roman Catholic Church, the Anglican, United and Presbyterian Churches, the Quakers, the Canadian Bar Association, the Canadian Jewish Congress, the Canadian Labour Congress are just a few of the organizations that found unacceptable the Bill that was debated months ago. They called for its withdrawal or at least for major amendments. They are reacting in exactly the same way, with exactly the same answers to what is before us today.

I have a document prepared by the Inter-Church Committee for Refugees. It is a document with the heading "Some Human Rights Aspects of Current Refugee Concerns" for discussion at consultations between non-governmental organizations and the Department of External Affairs in preparation for the forty-fourth session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights which will be held in the next couple of months.

In the section entitled "Human Rights Agencies Must Act to Ensure Refugee Rights", they state:

It is a matter of deep concern for this department—

The Department of External Affairs.

—to launch a centre which focuses on Canada's interest in human rights overseas into the same parliamentary session which could pass refugee related Bill C-84 at home.

They say that this Bill, the one the Government is still trying to enact:

—is a flagrant attack on fundamental rights and freedoms in Canada.

I say to the Hon. Parliamentary Secretary that he does not only have to explain, account for and defend to opposition Members what the Government is proposing to do—of course, he will say opposition Members of Parliament are raising objections and opposing this Bill for partisan political reasons—if he wants to deal with the real concerns of people, he must deal with the objections raised by all these very responsible organizations that do not take stands because of some political whim, but take a stand after they have given careful consideration to the facts and have listened to people from ethnic communities, the refugee community and the Government. They are as opposed to this legislation now as they were when it was originally brought in.

In fact, the Government has rejected all the serious amendments put forward for consideration by the other place. It simply said no and will continue to do exactly what it proposed in its original form. It is to those people that he should explain the Bill. He should go to his own community and explain it to