

S. O. 31

ties outside of Quebec, and another thing for Francophones inside of Quebec, a completely different policy tolerated. That is not acceptable, Madam Speaker.

[Translation]

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): Order, please. The time for questions and comments has expired. It being one o'clock, I do now leave the chair until two o'clock this day.

The House took recess at 1 p.m.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 31

[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LEBANON—REMOVAL OF FOREIGN ARMIES URGED

Mr. Mark Assad (Gatineau—La Lièvre): Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of the House the plight of the people of Lebanon who, after 14 years of strife, are suffering deprivation, terror, and death.

This morning, before Parliament, we had 2,000 Canadians of Lebanese origin who came here. Along with many of my colleagues from both sides of the House—and I have to thank them for their presence this morning—I heard the Lebanese community here in Canada call upon us to call upon the Government of Canada to use all its diplomatic levers through the United Nations to rid Lebanon of all foreign armies.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Lebanon have suffered much in the past 14 years. They are a determined people. They are a passionate people, but they are a specific people. Let them have the chance so that peace may be established in the part of the world that was once the cradle of civilization. Thank you very much.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[Translation]

ABORIGINAL PEOPLES

CONSTITUTION OF AUTONOMOUS REGIONAL GOVERNMENT

Mr. Guy St-Julien (Abitibi): On Monday, April 10, Mr. Speaker, Inuit and White citizens alike will elect the six members of the constituent assembly which will draft the constitution of a future autonomous regional government for the area.

This election is the result of the process initiated in November 1983 by the then Québec Premier René Lévesque when he asked the Inuit to elect their own responsible government.

Having decided in 1987 that territorial rather than ethnic considerations should be the basis for their government, the citizens held a referendum and the majority stated that the members of the constituent assembly would be elected by universal suffrage rather than appointed by the regional corporations, and that their work would be financed by a voluntary tax.

Twice the National Assembly of Québec passed a unanimous resolution asking the chief electoral officer to provide expert advice to the people of Nunavik to ensure that the election is carried out in accordance with the basic rules of democracy.

To the citizens of Nunavik, Mr. Speaker, I say: Kanatamiolimaate opigochoukpout amalou sapoummissoutik ilitinik.

You have the admiration and support of all Canadians!

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[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

POLAND—ACCORD REACHED BETWEEN SOLIDARNOSC MOVEMENT AND GOVERNMENT

Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg Transcona): Mr. Speaker, I know that all Members of the House will join with me in expressing congratulations to the Polish people who yesterday achieved great progress toward the signing of an accord by the Government and the Solidarity movement.

This accord, which reinstates the legal status of Solidarnosc and allows for the first democratic elections in Poland since the Second World War, marks a significant step towards national reconciliation.