

S.O. 22

Post, a positive report on our communications policy; the Manitoba December 5 *Winnipeg Free Press*, a positive report on privatization; the Ontario December 6 *Toronto Sun*, a positive report on the minimum tax; the Quebec December 12 *Gazette* and *La Presse*, a positive report on the Francophonie Summit; the New Brunswick December 3 *Telegraph Journal*, a positive report on the new alcohol legislation; the Prince Edward Island November 29 *Guardian*, a positive report on financial co-operation with the provinces; the Nova Scotia November 25 *Chronical Herald*, a positive report on deregulation; the Newfoundland December 3 *Evening Telegram*—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I regret to interrupt the Hon. Member, but his allotted time has expired.

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[English]

EXTERNAL AID

DELIVERY OF SUPPLIES TO COLUMBIA BY DEPARTMENT OF
NATIONAL DEFENCE AIRCRAFT

Mr. Don Ravis (Saskatoon East): Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my outrage at the statement made in the House yesterday by the Member for Regina East (Mr. de Jong) when he distorted the facts to the point where Members of the House and, indeed, the Canadian public were left with the impression that the Government had kept humanitarian supplies off a Department of National Defence aircraft bound for Columbia on a training flight.

I want to set the record straight by telling the House and every Canadian that all humanitarian supplies collected by the Saskatchewan Food Bank that met Columbian needs were put on board that Armed Forces aircraft. In fact one of the organizers of the Saskatchewan Food Bank, Mrs. Burke, has expressed her gratitude for the prompt and helpful response by the Canadian Forces in this matter.

In my opinion this is a fine example of what can be accomplished when Government and private organizations such as the Saskatchewan Food Bank collaborate together for the benefit of those less fortunate than ourselves. It is about time that facts were verified before such frivolous allegations are made.

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[Translation]

INDUSTRY

PRIME MINISTER'S MEETING WITH EMPLOYEES OF GULF
REFINERY IN MONTREAL

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal-Sainte-Marie): Last Wednesday, Mr. Speaker, Quebec's petrochemical industry workers, mostly Gulf employees, had an opportunity to meet with the Right Hon. the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney).

During the meeting the Prime Minister told them that *Gaz métropolitain's* bid was not serious.

Today, Mr. Armand Galipeau of *Gaz métropolitain* has contradicted the Prime Minister by stating that his company did submit a truly reasonable and serious bid as early as December 1.

Mr. Speaker, along with all Hon. Members, I am sure, I deplore the fact that the Prime Minister would choose to play games with the workers and be less than honest with them.

Mr. Speaker, I dare hope that Government Members will use today's questions period to shed light on the matter, and that the Prime Minister will apologize to *Gaz métropolitain* and the workers, if indeed he made a mistake.

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[English]

HEALTH

DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE BY NATIVE PEOPLE LIVING IN
URBAN CENTRES

Mr. John Parry (Kenora-Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, yesterday morning the National Association of Friendship Centres officially released its final report on the Urban Research Project into Drug, Alcohol and Solvent Abuse.

This study found, among other things, that the problem of drug and alcohol abuse by native people who migrate to urban centres remain, tragically high and that no programs exist in those centres to offer specific assistance in either preventative programs or direct counselling.

The Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Epp) has had a copy of this report for two months and has declined on three separate occasions to meet with representatives of the NAFC to discuss the findings and the necessary response to them. For a Minister who campaigned on a platform of more consultation with the Canadian public, this is a poor track record indeed. The following quotation from this report will, I hope, remind the Minister that his personal attention to this national problem is required immediately:

● (1110)

The Urban Research Report tells of Indian men, ordered by the courts to refrain from alcohol consumption, who have sought death rather than face going "cold turkey", of women who have chosen to terminate seven-month pregnancies than discontinue their addictions, and of five year old children sniffing the contents of a can of PAM and suffocating.

Drug, alcohol, and solvent abuse constitutes a national tragedy. No group in society is more vulnerable or more affected than native people who have moved to urban centres. This Party calls upon the Minister for action.