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means of terminating political dissent is a tactic used by brutally repressive dictatorial regimes, of which we have many.

Any individual who uses violence to suppress freedom of speech must be severely punished. Canadians will not tolerate any attempts to subvert democracy.

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FISHERIES

SITUATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR INSHORE FISHERMEN

Mr. Brian Tobin (Humber—Port au Port—St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, hundreds of inshore fishermen in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador continue to receive no positive response whatsoever from the Government of Canada to their request for assistance after having a disastrous season this year in the inshore fishery. Indeed, organizers today in western Newfoundland, in the community of Corner Brook, a city 150 miles south of the northern peninsula, are putting together food to be sent to the northern peninsula to be distributed at the first food bank ever on the Great Northern Peninsula of Newfoundland.

We saw last week that the National Citizens Coalition, a right wing group in this country, awarded a \$10,000 prize to the Member for St. John's West (Mr. Crosbie), a cabinet Minister, for espousing the views of the National Citizens Coalition. The Minister says he wants to put it to work for a good cause. He will give it to the Tory Party—a back-door contribution. If he really wants to contribute it to a good cause, let him give it to the inshore fishermen of Newfoundland whom he is ignoring, and who have had no response, and who are trying to put food on the table. That is a good and worthy cause.

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● (1410)

[Translation]

RAILWAYS

ABANDONMENT OF FRANQUET-CHAPPAIS SUBDIVISION—REQUEST FOR MORATORIUM

Mr. Guy St-Julien (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, since March 1986, I have been working with CN employees, Denis Lamarche, the Railway Network Committee of the CRDAT and municipal and economic partners in the Abitibi region, to fight against the abandonment of the Franquet-Chapais subdivision.

I received a copy of a letter dated August 16, 1988, sent by François Gendron, Quebec MNA for Abitibi West, to the Canadian Transport Commission, in which Mr. Gendron opposed CN's application in the following terms: "The

application by CN would jeopardize the mining potential of this part of the region."

In a letter sent on August 27 this year to the federal Minister of Transport, Marc-Yvan Côté maintained that "the abandonment of the Franquet-Chapais subdivision will, in the medium term lead, to a considerable rise in the cost of transportation between the Chapais-Chibougamau mines and the Noranda smelter".

Mr. Speaker, since 1986 I have spoken many times about this matter, both in the House and in the Standing Committee on Transport, and I repeat that Quebec is disadvantaged compared to Western Canada. I would ask the Minister of Transport for a moratorium on all applications for abandoning CN subdivisions in this country and I would ask the Government of Canada to grant CN a subsidy of \$5 million for repairs and maintenance on the Franquet-Chapais subdivision in Abitibi.

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[English]

PORTS

PORT OF CHURCHILL—LACK OF GRAIN SHIPMENTS

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, as of today there is no grain being shipped through the Port of Churchill. There are no commitments from the Government to ensure that that will happen.

Last June I wrote to the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) asking for his personal intervention in this matter. He in turn referred the matter to the Minister of State for Grains and Oilseeds (Mr. Mayer) who responded to me indicating that he himself would not get involved.

Since the Minister of State for Grains and Oilseeds is a Manitoba Member of Parliament I believe it is his duty to make sure that there is grain shipped through the Port of Churchill. I call his lack of action a real treason to his own province and to the people in Manitoba of all three political Parties who believe that grain should be shipped through that port. I call upon him to act.

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[Translation]

NATIONAL DEFENSE

VISIT TO SUBMARINE

Mr. Gabriel Fontaine (Lévis): Mr. Speaker, at the invitation of the Department of National Defence, I had an opportunity, as so many other Members of this House, to visit one of our Canadian Forces submarines last Thursday. Upon consulting the log, I found, to my surprise, that not a single