

Government Orders

The government has mismanaged the whole affair. I find it difficult since we received the statement only 15 minutes ago. However the minister has said he is not responsible for that.

The debates in the House have brought serious questions forward. I do not believe they have been heard. This summer during a critical time there was a lack of leadership. The minister was unavailable for comment. The Prime Minister was found in a canoe somewhere and gave some very general comments which I found to be very insulting to me as a parliamentarian and to Canadians.

The Reform Party thanks our troops. We demand from Parliament that it set some criteria before we become the 911 UN call number. We must do it in Parliament and not simply in cabinet. We want to return the confidence of the people of Canada to peacekeeping and to the management and leadership the government should be showing.

Mr. Ouellet: Madam Speaker, I apologize. I forgot to table the letter during my original statement. I should like to table the letter we received from Kofi Annan, the undersecretary general for peacekeeping operations, outlining the decisions of the UN addressed to us. It will be of interest to all parliamentarians.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Maheu): Does the minister have unanimous consent to table the letter?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

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INCOME TAX CONVENTIONS IMPLEMENTATION ACT, 1995

Hon. Lawrence MacAulay (for the Minister of Finance) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-105, an act to implement a convention between Canada and the Republic of Latvia, a convention between Canada and the Republic of Estonia, a convention between Canada and the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and a protocol between Canada and the Republic of Hungary, for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income.

(Motions deemed adopted, bill read the first time and printed.)

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• (1020)

PETITIONS

INCOME TAX ACT

Mr. Paul Szabo (Mississauga South, Lib.): Madam Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36 I wish to present a petition circulating across Canada. It is signed by a number of Canadians from the Oakville, Burlington and Mississauga areas of Ontario.

The petitioners draw to the attention of the House that managing the family home and caring for preschool children is an honourable profession which has not been recognized for its value to our society. They also state the Income Tax Act discriminates against families that make the choice to provide care in the home to preschool children, the disabled, the chronically ill or the aged.

The petitioners therefore pray and call on Parliament to pursue initiatives to eliminate tax discrimination against families that decide to provide care in the home to preschool children, the disabled, the chronically ill or aged.

CFB CALGARY

Mr. Stephen Harper (Calgary West, Ref.): Madam Speaker, it is my honour and duty to present to the House a petition containing the signatures of 7,953 people, part of a larger petition of nearly 10,000 signatures, mainly from people in the city of Calgary.

These residents are opposed to the closing of CFB Calgary and are increasingly concerned as they learn that the move of CFB Calgary to Edmonton will not save taxpayer dollars. The move is not designed to do so.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Maheu): I wish to inform the House that pursuant to Standing Order 33(2), because of the ministerial statement, Government Orders will be extended by 16 minutes.

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

Mr. Peter Milliken (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, Lib.): Madam Speaker, I ask that all questions be allowed to stand.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Maheu): Is that agreed?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

WITNESS PROTECTION PROGRAM ACT

Hon. Herb Gray (Leader of the Government in the House of Commons and Solicitor General of Canada, Lib.) moved that Bill C-78, an act to provide for the establishment and operation of a program to enable certain persons to receive protection in relation to certain inquiries, investigations or prosecutions, be read the second time and referred to a committee.

He said: Madam Speaker, I am pleased to open debate on Bill C-78, the witness protection program act, and to ask for its approval on second reading.

The bill creates for the first time a statutory foundation for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police source witness protection