

*International Relations*

that \$30 million or \$25 million, or whatever it is going to cost, and put it into a separate fund to finance research on peace.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Ogle:** Development and peace are like two hands washing each other. If there is no development, there will be no peace. We have to find how peace can be achieved. We have to research and use every human ability to do that.

I should like to congratulate the government for appointing an ambassador for disarmament on a full-time basis. At the same time, I should like to ask the government to give him a budget and make it possible for him to do something above and beyond a little bit of visiting. He should have a real budget.

Finally, I should like to ask my friend, the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. MacGuigan) to reconsider his position on Central America. I felt very much like the little boy, Alfredo Rampi, as the minister made his speech this afternoon. I felt I was confined in a tomb. I ask the minister to seriously reconsider the situation. Six months or more ago I wrote to him asking him to visit Latin America, Central America, so that he could meet the people and see the situation for himself.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member but the time allotted to him has expired.

The hon. member for Gloucester (Mr. Breau).

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Breau:** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Saskatoon East (Mr. Ogle) had not concluded and I believe there was agreement to let him conclude his remarks.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The hon. member for Gloucester. There is no unanimous agreement.

**An hon. Member:** Who said no?

**Mr. Friesen:** I did.

**Miss Jewett:** Benito Friesen.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Herb Breau (Gloucester):** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to take part in this debate. In my opinion, a good debate was held yesterday and it riveted the attention of almost all members of the House. I think that is an encouraging fact. I have always believed, Mr. Speaker, that our political system did not provide enough opportunities to discuss international issues, especially with respect to international development and co-operation. It is normal, since we are elected to represent certain interests, whether they are the interests of our constituencies or philosophical and political interests and we normally tend in politics to centre on the problems of such groups in our constituencies. Our concentration on—Mr. Speaker, I wonder if we could not have some order in the House.

[*English*]

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member for Gloucester has the floor.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Breau:** It is normal, Mr. Speaker, to centre our political efforts and our political discussions on the interests of our constituents, as I said earlier, as on our philosophical or political interests. Unfortunately, our parliamentary system, our political system generally does not provide enough opportunities to discuss important questions outside our immediate interests. This is why I am pleased that the government decided yesterday to devote an entire day to a debate on international affairs and I am pleased to see that the New Democratic Party has decided today to devote one of their allotted days to deal with them. I had the opportunity for almost a year with six other members from both sides of the House to belong to a working group on North-South relations which I chaired.

I want to say how much I appreciate the co-operation I was extended as chairman, first of all from the spokesmen of both the opposition parties, the hon. member for Edmonton South (Mr. Roche) and the hon. member for Saskatoon East (Mr. Ogle), and from the other member of the opposition, the hon. member for Erie (Mr. Fretz). From this side of the House, I was also extended a good deal of co-operation and dedication to the cause by the hon. member for Labelle (Mr. Dupras), the hon. member for Guelph (Mr. Schroder) and the hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Frith). This has been a valuable and rewarding experience for the seven of us, and I feel that we have made the point that our parliamentary system, when there is a strong will to . . . We often talk about the need to reform our parliamentary institutions. I suggest that we should be concerned more with the need to change our attitudes as members of Parliament, for when there is a will, there is a way for members representing different parts of this country, various political formations, to agree on a statement of policy such as the report of the parliamentary task force, a document which does not necessarily represent the views of a particular member or group of members or party in the House, but is the result of an honest and sincerely negotiated effort. In order to achieve such a result, we had to reconcile several of our views, in some cases there was some give and take we had to defend our points of view, and the result was a coherent statement of policy comprising several recommendations. I am happy to note that in general the government has accepted the directions of the task force. Yesterday the government said and the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) repeated that the government accepted the main directions contained in that report and which are as follows, Mr. Speaker. They are quite simple. It is that we should show concern as individuals, humanitarian concern, when making important policy decisions and that it should not be our only concern. What this report says is that there is a mutual interest, there are practical benefits for the