

S. O. 21

bilateral aid to the human rights record of the recipient country.

Nineth de Garcia, the President of the Group for the Support of the Families of the Disappeared, stated "before, there were kidnappings; before, there were murders. Now there are kidnappings and murders. The only difference is that now it is supposed to be a democratic Government".

There are an average of 70 political murders in Guatemala each month. How then can the Government maintain that the human rights record has improved sufficiently to warrant a resumption of bilateral aid?

Two years ago we resumed bilateral aid to El Salvador, a country with a disgraceful, disgusting record of human rights violations, capped last month by the murder of the head of the human rights organization in that country.

• (1415)

On the other hand, Nicaragua, which has the best record for making good, effective use of development assistance of any country in Central America, has not been receiving the kind of support from Canada that its need warrants. It has received a paltry \$1 million increase in development assistance, while the Government is promising to increase development assistance by \$18 million for Honduras, a country which is providing the base for the Contras who are waging a war against development in Nicaragua, a country whose economy is completely distorted by the militarization from the United States.

Canadians can only object to this distortion of the aid program in the interest of short-sighted, kowtowing to United States foreign policy.

* * *

TRADE

CANADA-UNITED STATES TRADE AGREEMENT—ELIMINATION
OF TARIFFS ON CANADIAN FISH EXPORTS

Mr. Morrissey Johnson (Bonavista—Trinity—Conception): Mr. Speaker, today I would like to speak on free trade as it affects Newfoundland. Newfoundland's economy, like that of the rest of Canada, is based on exports. Most of our jobs depend on the province's chief export, fish. In fact fish landings in 1985 amounted to over 450,000 metric tonnes. The processed value of fish products exceeded \$400 million from over 120 plants. The United States is the largest buyer of Newfoundland fish products, absorbing exports worth \$360 million in 1985.

For many years now there have been high tariffs, ranging from 15 per cent to as high as 30 per cent, placed on secondary processed fish products entering the U.S. market. This tariff means that processors in Newfoundland must export unprocessed fish to the United States, meaning many secondary processing opportunities are lost to the United States. The free trade agreement will mean that these tariffs will be eliminated on all fishery products, the majority over five years or less, with the duty on a few sensitive items being removed in 10 years.

The reduction and eventual elimination of these tariffs will mean an increase in the production of value-added products in Newfoundland and Labrador. What does this mean to the fishermen, fish plant workers, and the whole economy of Newfoundland? It means new opportunities, more jobs, more development and better prosperity for Newfoundland.

This free trade agreement will provide opportunities for Newfoundlanders to expand their capacity for secondary processing. It offers a significant opportunity to add value to many of Newfoundland's resource-based products and to reinforce the growing, self-sustaining development of its secondary manufacturing sector. It will create new investment opportunities. This leads to an increase in business, an increase in jobs and an increase in prosperity.

Mr. Speaker: I regret that the Hon. Member has exceeded his time.

* * *

[Translation]

SHIPBUILDING

REQUEST THAT GOVERNMENT GIVE EMPLOYMENT TO
SHIPYARD WORKERS

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal—Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, the 5 000 workers in Quebec shipyards are fed up with this Tory Government. Even the Hon. Member for Richelieu and the Hon. Member for Hochelaga today are joining Liberal Members in asking for justice for the 5 000 workers in Montreal, Sorel, and Lauzon, near Quebec City.

Mr. Speaker, we even have workers from the Halifax shipyards coming here asking for work.

I would therefore urge all Conservative Members to join the Liberal Party's fight, alongside the Hon. Members for Sorel and Hochelaga, to have this Government guarantee that all the workers in Canadian shipyards will have assured work, because they are qualified workers, quite capable of competing with any worker in any shipyard outside of Canada.