

[Translation]

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): Order, please. It being one o'clock, I do now leave the chair until two o'clock this afternoon.

At 1 p.m. the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S.O. 21

[English]

DISARMAMENT

POSITION OF LIBERAL PARTY

Hon. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce—Lachine East): Mr. Speaker, at its convention over the weekend the Liberal Party took strong positions for nuclear disarmament and arms control. In Priority Resolution No. 11, the Liberal Party asked Canada to seek a multilateral, verifiable disarmament treaty together with a policy of non-interference by superpowers in the internal affairs of other nations. In Priority Resolution No. 12, we resolved that the Canadian Government should stop testing of the Cruise missile in Canada. In Priority Resolution No. 34 we resolved that the Canadian Government should move immediately to make Canada a nuclear-free zone, to support a comprehensive test ban treaty, and to oppose completely the star wars proposal.

Considering the recent willingness of the superpowers to examine these proposals seriously in Geneva and Iceland, now is the time for our Government to take a more committed and aggressive position on these issues.

* * *

ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY

ANNOUNCED ALLOCATION OF FUNDS TO REPAIR WELAND CANAL

Mr. Allan Pietz (Welland): Mr. Speaker, on Friday the Minister of Transport (Mr. Crosbie) announced the allocation of \$175 million for the rehabilitation of the Welland Canal. This demonstrates the federal Government's commitment to one of the most important transportation systems in the world, namely, the St. Lawrence Seaway, of which the Welland Canal is a central component. The Seaway has played a vital role in the development of Canada's economy, particularly with respect to the transportation of western grain.

Last year the Welland Canal faced a crisis situation with the unexpected blow-out at Lock 7. I have spoken often in this

S.O. 21

House on the need for upgrading the Canal. The Government has responded. Hundreds of new jobs will be created in the Niagara Peninsula. The Minister of Transport's announcement clearly indicates the Government's commitment to the future.

* * *

UNITED NATIONS

NEW CALEDONIA INDEPENDENCE RESOLUTION—CANADIAN SUPPORT URGED

Ms. Pauline Jewett (New Westminster—Coquitlam): Mr. Speaker, the United Nations will be voting this week on a resolution which could lead to the independence of New Caledonia. Past Liberal Governments and the present Conservative Government have failed to support this move toward creating a self-governing nation. Canada must change its vote. It is not enough to abstain. We must vote yes.

New Caledonia has been fighting the French colonial presence since 1853. Without a peaceful settlement in sight, it is now clearer than ever that Canada must take an active role in urging France to decolonize. Canada's close sisters in the Commonwealth, Australia, New Zealand, and Fiji are taking the lead in promoting independence for New Caledonia. Canada should join with those and other nations in this effort. We can start by voting yes at the United Nations.

* * *

WINTER OLYMPICS

OPENING OF OLYMPIC PARK

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Mr. Speaker, Canada's Olympic Park is beautiful to behold. Created specifically for the 1988 Calgary Olympics, I am sure it will thrill every Canadian and every participant from other countries.

It was my pleasure last Saturday to represent the Minister of State for Fitness and Amateur Sport (Mr. Jelinek) at the first pre-Olympic ski-jumping competition held in the park. As I watched the skiers start their run, momentarily disappear and then suddenly reappear, flying high in the sky like huge eagles and landing beautifully on the slope, I was proud of the Canadians who designed and built this splendid facility. As I presented the unique Canadian trophies to the top three skiers representing East Germany, Czechoslovakia, and Norway, I could see in the future a Canadian standing on the top podium receiving the first place trophy because Canadian youth, when they have equal facilities, stand shoulder to shoulder with the best athletes in the world.

Thank you, Mr. Minister, the Canadian Government, the Calgary Olympic Committee, and the Canadian people for this beautiful park.