

S. O. 31

plished by a freight equalization program. That is exactly what the At and East was. The government should openly commit itself to developing some program to ensure the long-term viability of these two elevators.

The APTC, the Atlantic Farmers Council, Dover Flour Mills and virtually every other economic group in the maritimes are concerned about this issue.

It is about time that the government takes this issue seriously and provides some real leadership on this important matter.

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[Translation]

THE ARMENIAN PEOPLE

Mrs. Nicole Roy-Arcelin (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Communications): Mr. Speaker, internationally, Canada has a reputation for tolerance and freedom. Our country has been much enriched by the contribution of hundreds of thousands of Armenian immigrants who found a safe haven in Canada. Their dedication and unconditional loyalty have enriched the Canadian mosaic.

Yesterday was a memorable occasion for our fellow citizens of Armenian origin who were celebrating the seventy-third anniversary of Armenia's independence.

I wish to join all Canadians in paying tribute to the heroic struggle of the Armenian people who want to regain the independence they lost under the Communist regime. The events that caused these valiant and brave people such terrible suffering must not be forgotten.

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[English]

NATIONAL DEFENCE

Mrs. Coline Campbell (South West Nova): Mr. Speaker, we are told by the government that a new defence policy is forthcoming.

The Department of National Defence is doing a complete review of Canada's defence policy and how it spends its \$12.6 billion annual budget. However, the

review process we have seen to date has been unfair and irresponsible.

The government has permitted speculation and rumours about base relocations, base closures and our withdrawal from NATO. These speculations are running rampant without any opportunity for public input.

In my opinion this is unfair to Canadians who want a full and public debate about the objectives of our defence policy. It is unfair to the military personnel who have served Canada so well and unfair to the many Canadians who directly and indirectly depend on the military.

Canadians want a military that serves Canada's defence needs into the next century. Even more, Mr. Speaker, they want a defence policy that is fully debated by all—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's time has expired.

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OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

Hon. Alan Redway (Don Valley East): Mr. Speaker, according to a recent Gallup poll, 63 per cent of all Canadians and 65 per cent of Quebec residents think that the Official Languages Act is a failure.

Professor Robert Young of the University of Western Ontario advocates that every province should have full control over language, culture and communications because, according to him, bilingualism has not reduced support for independence in Quebec and it arouses anti-Quebec sentiment elsewhere in Canada.

If, as the Prime Minister says, the House of Commons is the greatest constituent assembly there is, then it is time we publicly discussed this issue. However, when we do, let's remember the impact that changes in language rights will have on the French speaking minority outside Quebec and the English speaking minority in Quebec.

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THE CANINE CAPER

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Mr. Speaker, *The Canine Caper*: It is a real dog's life out there, unless of course you are a dog working for Revenue Canada in which case you get royal treatment.