

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, December 6, 1989

The House met at 2 p.m.

Prayers

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 31

[*English*]

AUDITOR GENERAL

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I am troubled by the proposal of the Auditor General to set up an anonymous tattle-tale hotline to encourage civil servants to tell tales about other civil servants to the Auditor General. I am particularly concerned that the Auditor General appears to be dismissing out of hand the view of Canada's privacy commissioner that the proposed hotline is dangerous and perhaps even illegal.

I believe that public servants have a right to know their accusers and I would urge the government not to approve funds which would sanctify, subsidize and institutionalize anonymous informants, certainly not before Parliament has had an opportunity for a thorough examination of the issue.

I do not accept on the face of it the suggestion that a tattle-tale hotline is somehow the same as a crime stoppers hotline. The Auditor General should understand that he is not dealing with organized crime syndicates, he is dealing with hard working Canadian public servants. We all want to save money in this country but not at the expense of Canadians' individual rights.

I do not think the Auditor General should feel free to ignore the advice of the privacy commissioner on civil liberties any more than the privacy commissioner would feel free to ignore accounting advice from the Auditor General.

AGRICULTURE

Mr. Bill Casey (Cumberland—Colchester): Mr. Speaker, the tariff on U.S. corn places an extra undue burden on Atlantic livestock producers. Atlantic Canadian farmers already struggling to be competitive must now pay more for feed because of higher transportation costs than those in any other area of Canada. On top of this, they must carry the extra burden of the tariff on corn. Again, farmers of other areas do not have to absorb such a tariff.

I call on the Minister of State for Privatization and Regulatory Affairs to give this issue top priority and work to remove this tariff which hurts all Atlantic livestock producers in a very real way.

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HAITI

Mr. Dan Heap (Trinity—Spadina): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Employment and Immigration is rescheduling deportation of Haitians who fear persecution from the oppressive government of General Namphy in Haiti. They have reason to fear persecution.

On October 4, thugs threatened the staff of Radio Soleil, Radio Cacique and Radio Haiti. On October 6, Vilme Eleazar of the Catholic Church Justice and Peace Commission was stabbed to death after demonstrating with 46 other commission members against the repressive government. On October 12, a land owner, four soldiers and an army second lieutenant shot and killed a peasant in a land dispute. On November 1, one labourer and one political opposition leader were arrested and beaten by police.

Recently two Quebec missionaries have been assassinated. Recently, in the Plaisance communal section, all public gatherings have been forbidden, even religious ones. Renaud Bernarden in *Le Devoir* calls this state terrorism and points out that candidates for highest office used force to block elections and are demanding