S.O. 21

Question Period to present in this House a petition which reads as follows:

We, the undersigned Canadians of Greek descent, are very alarmed at the intentions, of the Canadian Government to give 20 renovate fighter planes to Turkey and none to Greece.

While there might be good reasons for Canada to support a NATO ally, Canada should not side with Turkey against Greece.

What we are seeking is in fact justice and fairness for all our NATO allies, and I think it is a petition with which the Minister would certainly agree.

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TRADE

CANADA-UNITED STATES FREE TRADE PROPOSAL

Mr. Alex Kindy (Calgary East): Mr. Speaker, the issue of free trade between Canada and the United States is as old as Canada itself. It has been proposed and rejected several times by previous politicians. However, within this last year there has been a renewal of interest in this subject.

Canada-U.S. trade is greater than that between any other bilateral trading partners in the world. Almost one-third of our gross national product results from our trading activities. Total trade between our great nations is likely to exceed \$150 billion for 1984. Therefore, it is highly apparent that the time has come that this country's best interest may be realized by forging closer ties with the U.S.

As an Albertan, access to the U.S. market is most inviting. A relationship of this sort will allow for significant growth, both for Alberta and the Canadian economy. The benefits far outweigh any negative aspects.

A closer relationship with the U.S. will enable our industry to restructure itself, and consumers will benefit from increased product selection. Costs to Canadian businesses will decrease when purchasing in U.S. markets; and finally, the important sectors of our ailing economy, such as the oil and gas industry, will be given a new incentive.

The time is ripe for Canada and the United States to consider seriously the mutual benefits of a free trade arrangement.

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FISHERIES

MOORAGE RATES PAID BY WESTERN FISHERMEN

Mr. Ray Skelly (Comox-Powell River): Mr. Speaker, I wish to call to the attention of this House a matter of serious injustice. This House has learned that moorage rates for fishermen in western Canada are already very high and that the Government has proposed to increase them by 100 per cent.

We have also learned that in eastern Canada in many jurisdictions fishermen pay no moorage rates whatsoever.

Although this serious discriminatory situation was put in place by previous Liberal Governments, it is clear that the Conservatives intend to continue the discrimination. In fact they intend to make it worse by charging western fishermen a 100 per cent increase in their rates, while continuing to charge fishermen in eastern Canada nothing.

The Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) promised this country that people in western Canada would be given a hearing by this Government. The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans (Mr. Fraser) made the same promises. The Tories have outdone themselves. They have taken a Liberal abuse of western Canada and made it worse.

The NDP calls upon this House to abandon and abolish changes for moorage in western Canada, and to give western Canadians some equality with their confreres on the East Coast.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

TERRORISM

SEIZURE OF TURKISH EMBASSY IN OTTAWA

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Deputy Prime Minister. I think the Canadian people would want to express outrage and sorrow at the tragedy at the Turkish Embassy today. All of us in this House are sickened by the despicable actions of terrorism and, indeed, cowardice.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): I would be grateful to the Deputy Prime Minister if he would give the House a report on the matter as he understands it as of this moment.

Hon. Erik Nielsen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, as just a moment ago indicated, all Members of the House share the description of the incident at the Turkish Embassy that transpired this morning expressed by the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition.

I think we would all wish at the outset to express our deep regrets to the Embassy and our deep condolences to the survivors of Mr. Claude Brunelle whose life was forfeited. Mr. Brunelle was single and 31 years of age. His next of kin have been notified of the tragedy.

Second, I think all Members of the House would want to join me in commending, to the highest possible degree, the RCMP, the Ottawa Police Force, and the various federal Departments that were involved immediately in dealing with the situation.