

*S.O. 21*

## REFUGEES

## PLIGHT OF IRANIAN REFUGEE

**Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West):** Mr. Speaker, Canadian Press has just reported that the Minister of State for Immigration (Mr. Weiner) has refused refugee status to an individual who will face torture and probable execution when the U.S. deports him to Iran next week.

When the U.S. tried to return this individual to Iran earlier this year, the man attempted suicide by slashing his wrists during a stopover in Paris. Consequently, France refused to send him on to Iran and, instead, returned him to Washington.

His plea to Canada for a humanitarian reconsideration was shunted aside by the Minister with the cold comment: "We have no grounds to intervene".

It is ironic that the Minister can issue a ministerial permit to an individual with a record of over 20 criminal convictions, and give special entry to a Hungarian spy, but refuse to deal compassionately with a human being who faces almost certain death. The Minister's decisions are inconsistent, illogical, and confusing.

I suggest that the Minister review his policy position so that immigration decisions can once again be returned to a firm, compassionate, and sensible ground. Anything less is simply not good enough.

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## BILINGUALISM

## FRANCOPHONE RIGHTS IN ONTARIO

**Mr. Ernie Epp (Thunder Bay—Nipigon):** Mr. Speaker, by unanimous action the Legislature of the Province of Ontario took an historic step toward official bilingualism yesterday.

[*Translation*]

Meanwhile, the Quebec Government has confirmed the rights of Anglophones in that province, while maintaining the predominant position of French in Quebec.

[*English*]

But the Government of Canada has neglected its responsibilities to advance the principles of the Official Languages Act.

The Mulroney Government—

**Some Hon. Members:** Order! Order!

**Mr. Epp (Thunder Bay—Nipigon):** —refused to let the Joint Standing Committee on Official Languages launch a reconnaissance of the country last year that could have—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The Hon. Member must watch the language and structure of his sentences in his statement. He may continue his statement, and complete it.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Epp (Thunder Bay—Nipigon):** Mr. Speaker, Canadians are still waiting for the Canadian Government to show some more leadership in this matter.

Federal Government services must be available in the minority's language.

Francophones in the public service have the right to work in French every day.

[*English*]

National reconciliation requires action, not just fine words in the Speech from the Throne.

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[*Translation*]

## ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

## PUBLICATION OF GUIDE FOR VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

**Mr. Maurice Tremblay (Lotbinière):** Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada (Mr. Hnatyshyn) recently announced the publication of a guide for victims of sexual assault.

Today I would like to draw the attention of the House to this guide because it is a tool that provides victims—most of them women—with information on the services that are available to them and on how the judicial system works.

In addition to explaining the legal provisions that apply to sexual assault, it also describes the whole mechanism of investigation and criminal proceedings that is set off by a charge of sexual assault.

Furthermore, this kind of initiative answers a need that has existed for a long time, and it reflects this Government's concern for these victims who are often misunderstood and left to fend for themselves. The guide will not only help give victims a sense of direction, it will also make the various intervenors in the judicial system better aware of their needs.

Finally, I would remind all those who at some time will be involved in such proceedings that to keep silent when one can speak is to promote deliberately what is morally wrong.

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[*English*]

## ENERGY

## DEREGULATION OF NATURAL GAS INDUSTRY—ACTION TAKEN BY TRANSCANADA PIPELINES

**Mr. Paul Gagnon (Calgary North):** Mr. Speaker, on October 29 I rose in the House to call for TransCanada Pipelines to sever its production and marketing segments from