

Although the petition is an older one, and although the government has ignored the petitioners' request already, I am sure they would be delighted if the government would live up to its obligations and reinstate rail service in this country.

#### GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

**Mr. Tom Wappel (Scarborough West):** Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to rise today under Standing Order 36 to present three petitions from some of the good citizens of Newfoundland and Labrador.

It will come as no surprise to the government that they are petitioning the government with respect to its goods and services tax. It will also be no surprise to the government that they are asking it to rescind the goods and services tax since it will be completely unfair and regressive. They ask the government to go back to the drawing-board and come up with something fairer for the Canadian people.

**Mr. Jack Whittaker (Okanagan—Similkameen—Meritt):** Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise under Standing Order 36 once again to offer to this House a petition against the goods and services tax from people in various communities throughout British Columbia.

They are simply asking that the goods and services tax be rejected. They state that if reform is to be brought in, the taxation system should include an effective minimum tax on wealthy individuals and corporations. They ask the government to cease with this present proposal.

**Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present several petitions today with several hundred names on them from communities such as Espanola, Massey, Tehkummah, Webbwood, and other communities throughout the Algoma—Manitoulin area, in which the petitioners call on the government to reject the goods and services tax.

They point out that it will cause an onerous burden on small business, that it will be an unfair hardship to lower and middle income Canadians, and that it will have an adverse effect on inflation, higher interest rates, and higher unemployment.

#### Routine Proceedings

#### QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

[Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.]

**Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons):** Mr. Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 263, 272, 276, 277, 281, and 283.

[Text]

#### SEARCH AND RESCUE INCIDENTS

##### Question No. 263—Mr. McGuire:

From January 1, 1986 to January 1, 1989, were there any search and rescue incidents in the Halifax Search and Rescue Region to which aircraft from C.F.B. Summerside were tasked to respond and, if so (a) what number were there (b) were any of the incidents located closer to C.F.B. Summerside than to C.F.B. Greenwood and, if so, what number?

**Hon. William Hunter McKnight (Minister of National Defence):** 1. Yes.

(a) 202.

(b) From January 1, 1986 to January 1, 1989, 152 search and rescue incidents, to which aircraft from CFB Summerside were tasked, were located closer to CFB Summerside than to CFB Greenwood. However, from 1981 to 1986, the reverse was true. The majority of search and rescue incidents were located closer to CFB Greenwood than to CFB Summerside. It should be noted that the average incident occurs over two hundred miles or approximately one hour flying time from either location. In addition, although CFB Summerside may have been closer to more incidents than CFB Greenwood, the average difference in distance between the two locations and these incidents is only 35 miles. This translates into approximately ten minutes flying time.

#### RACE RELATIONS NETWORK

##### Question No. 272—Mrs. Maheu:

Has a grant been awarded for a feasibility study on setting up the "Race Relations Network" and, if so (a) to whom has the grant been awarded (b) in what amount (c) will the study report be tabled in the House of Commons?

**Hon. Gerry Weiner (Secretary of State of Canada and Minister of State (Multiculturalism and Citizenship)):** No.

a) b) and c) not applicable.