

Routine Proceedings

AGRICULTURE

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Agriculture. Last December, certain pessimists took delight in saying that the future of supply management in Canada was doomed. Obviously, the truth was quite another story.

Can the parliamentary secretary give this House some idea of the long-term projections for this industry? Can he also give us a status report on his department's review of supply management?

[English]

Mr. Lyle Vancilief (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Agriculture and Agri-food): Mr. Speaker, yes, I am able to report, as we know, that a task force was established in January to discuss with all stakeholders in the industry the future of supply management and orderly marketing in those sectors in Canada.

Those meetings have been taking place. The five commodity committees are meeting on a regular basis. I am proud and pleased to say that all stakeholders in the industry are taking part in those discussions. We will be reporting the very optimistic results of those discussions. The industry will be prepared to meet the challenges and the opportunities of the Uruguay round of GATT negotiations when they are implemented in 1995.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

• (1500)

[English]

D-DAY

Hon. Sheila Copps (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, 50 years ago today boys became men. Fifty years ago today men became heroes.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, I was there this morning with all other hon. members who felt an incredible pride when the national anthem *O Canada* was sung everywhere for those who worked for democracy in Canada 50 years ago.

[English]

D-Day began the Normandy campaign. The Normandy campaign began the liberation of Europe.

Today we honour the 14,000 young soldiers who landed on Juno Beach. We honour the 1,000 who were killed during that landing and we honour the combined efforts of millions of women and men who sacrificed terribly for five years to end the scourge of Nazism.

The Regina Rifle Regiment, the Canadian Scottish Regiment, the Royal Winnipeg Rifles, le régiment de la Chaudière, the North Shore (New Brunswick) Regiment, the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, the Stormont Dundas Glengarry Highlanders, the North Nova Scotia Islanders, the Highland Light Infantry, the Cameron Islanders of Ottawa, the First Canadian Parachute Battalion, les Fusilliers de Sherbrooke, the Fort Garry Horse Regiment and the Sixth Armoured Division.

The names ring of history but the landing on the beach of Normandy was not the romance of history books. War is not romantic. Real human beings died on the beach. Real human beings died in the frigid channel. Real human beings died on the barbed wire. Real human beings lost husbands, fathers, brothers and friends. Real human beings lost their children.

Many of us alive today have no memories of D-Day and yet we must remember. To paraphrase the Prime Minister speaking this morning as he did so eloquently in Normandy: "They didn't ask us if we were Quebecers, Ontarians, westerners, easterners; they didn't ask us what language we spoke when they called us to the service of our country, and we responded literally by the hundreds of thousands".

[Translation]

Yes, I was proud this morning. I was proud to hear *O Canada*, which symbolizes democracy because of everyone who died 50 years ago. Very few of us will ever be called upon to display as much courage as our soldiers on the beaches of Normandy.

My great-grandfather, an Acadian whose name was Gaudreault and who died in the First World War, the Magdalen Islanders and people from all over rallied to the cause of democracy and represented Canada with incredible pride. Very few of us will have to choose to give our lives for others' freedom.

• (1505)

[English]

The liberty to speak out; the liberty to separate; the liberty to exercise democracy in a way that Canada has shown both at Dieppe and on D-Day and over the years that they did not die in vain.

[Translation]

As we celebrate the decisive battle for the liberation of Europe, we praise the survivors and we mourn the dead.

[English]

It would be wrong to imagine that victory was foreordained. The war was not a book or a movie in which the good guys were bound to win. Except for the bravery of our soldiers and our allies, we could be living under the swastika today. Our soldiers faced down a criminal regime which deliberately murdered millions of people.