



CANADA

# Debates of the Senate

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(HANSARD)

**Tuesday, June 17, 2003**

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THE HONOURABLE DAN HAYS  
SPEAKER

# MERCHANT NAVY VETERANS DAY BILL

## SECOND READING

Leave having been given to revert to Commons Public Bills:

On the Order:

Resuming debate on the motion of the Honourable Senator Day, seconded by the Honourable Senator Biron, for the second reading of Bill C-411, to establish Merchant Navy Veterans Day.

**Hon. Joseph A. Day:** Honourable senators, I will not repeat the statistics indicated by my honourable friend, but the bill we are dealing with, Bill C-441, a Commons public bill, deals with the proposed creation of a merchant navy veterans day, September 3.

Honourable senators, the road to recognition by the merchant navy has been long and difficult. Approximately 15 years ago, in Sydney, Cape Breton, and Nova Scotia, a group got together to preserve some of the crumbling World War II fortifications. That resulted in a nationally recognized military war museum, namely Fort Petrie. That also gave impetus to the merchant navy to carry on with some other initiatives.