

in this invasion". I say again, Mr. Speaker, that this argument is bogus. I say so for a couple of reasons. The most fundamental reason is that no collection of states, whether or not they are democracies, has the right to say, "We will get together and gang up on another state". I do not care, Mr. Speaker, if 45 countries in the world get together and decide that the 46th country is wrong in terms of what it is doing internally. The 45 states should not impose their will on that one state.

● (2020)

This is not the first time in history this has happened, Mr. Speaker. We should keep in mind that democracies use power like tyrannies. Athenian democracy was the same. There was an Athenian empire which sought to impose its will upon other people. A democracy, I repeat, can abuse its authority, its power. It can violate its norms when it deals with other states. The so-called collective decision of a group of states to invade one state in a region has no moral—and I would also argue legal—authority.

The next point I would make, Mr. Speaker, is that the charter of this collection of Eastern Caribbean states has two important requirements in it, both of which were violated. One is that for such action to take place unanimity is required. Grenada is a member of that organization. It should not surprise many people that Grenada did not participate in that decision. That was the number one violation of their own charter. Second, and very important, collective action taken by members of the Eastern Caribbean Organization was to be directed toward an outside aggressor who was taking action against one of its members. Again, Mr. Speaker, that requirement was not met.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, the three arguments which have been offered with great seriousness in the U.S. media by the U.S. President and by its Secretary of State simply do not hold water and we in this House, like the rest of the civilized world which wants to be honest, must see that reality.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Broadbent:** I would also add, Mr. Speaker, that the action taken by this collection of states against Grenada violates the Rio Treaty. It violates the principles of international law and goes against the United Nations Charter. It goes against the preamble of the Charter and it goes against Article I and II of the Charter. In particular, Article II of the United Nations Charter says that members of the United Nations should refrain from "threat or the use of violence against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state".

I say in passing, Mr. Speaker, that it is a rather sad irony that the attack against Grenada should have taken place the day after the thirty-ninth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, the United Nations whose very name was suggested by a very distinguished and very great democrat by the name of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. I believe that if Mr. Roosevelt was alive he would have grave concerns about the abuse of the very principles of democracy, the very principles

of co-operative action upon which the United Nations was founded, and for whose purposes he worked so hard.

I would like to turn now, Mr. Speaker, to what I believe are the real reasons for the invasion of Grenada. They should concern us as members of a country which is part of the Americas. They should also concern us at this particular time in world history when matters are so precarious, when nuclear weaponry make a distinct possibility of the obliteration of mankind. I happen to think, and the evidence can be adduced, and if we had more time I would be only too happy to provide it, that the Reagan administration—not the Carter administration and, not many members of the United States Senate or the United States Congress, but the Reagan administration—has been waging an undeclared war against Nicaragua. It has aided in the suppression of human rights in El Salvador, and it supports the dictatorship which exists in Guatemala. These are unpalatable truths for a democrat. These are unpalatable truths for many people in the U.S. Congress.

The Reagan administration is turning, in my judgment, the whole of Central America into a crusade. It is doing its best to turn that region, and a good part of its members, into a crusade against any kind of political regime which can be seen in any sense of the modern use of language to be philosophically left of centre. It is supporting in this holy crusade—or unholy crusade—any kind of regime on the right, providing that such regime supports the government of the United States. Just as during the Crusades, Mr. Speaker, when the so-called Christian heads of state perverted the very principles of morality, of Christianity, in the name of Christianity, so do we now find people in the Reagan administration completely perverting the most fundamental principles of democracy in the name of democracy. George Orwell told us what this was all about.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Broadbent:** It is in this context, Mr. Speaker, that I say that the attack on Grenada was simply an event just waiting for an excuse to happen, in the mind of the Reagan administration. If we in this House do not say in the clearest way that this is unacceptable, if we do not make it clear that the American administration is doing things which are fundamentally wrong, we betray our own traditions as a democratic people and we will also not be supporting those thousands of American democrats who oppose their government in this kind of activity.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin):** I regret to interrupt the Hon. Member, but his time has expired. He could be allowed to continue with the unanimous consent of the House. Is it agreed?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Broadbent:** I thank Hon. Members of the House. I will try to conclude very quickly.

We must make very clear here in the Canadian House of Commons that we do not support this kind of activity, this