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agree with the content of the motion, but I listened with care when the Secretary of State for External Affairs had his say. I want to commend him without reservation for an excellent speech on a most serious subject. He gave a response on the part of the people of Canada that the nation would expect.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Broadbent: Mr. Speaker, to speak briefly on the motion, I would like to begin by saying that like many Members of this House I saw today in a local newspaper, The Ottawa Citizen, a photograph of a young Chinese woman. It was one of the most poignant photographs that I have seen in my political life. Perhaps in terms of all the rather horrible images the world has seen in the last 72 hours, it symbolizes in a terribly graphic way what is going on. It was of a young women who, on the one hand, was in a very militant pose with her fist clenched in obvious anger at what was taking place. At the same time, there were two large tears obvious on the young woman's cheeks. You saw simultaneously the rage being expressed by a person against the violation of human rights that her Government at home was inflicting and, combined with that rage, you saw a sense of horror, a sense of total and profound grief. That is what I was reading into it. I am sure that that was there. That person abroad was reflecting what happening in her own nation.

It is a terrible event in the course of our times to witness what is taking place in one of the world's great nations. Like the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Leader of the Opposition, I too have witnessed the evolution of what has gone on in China in the last few years with a considerable degree of optimism. I thought that the rigid Stalinist communist model was breaking down and that there was a move toward freedom, toward a pluralistic society, a peaceful, conflict laden but not violent conflict, not murder but verbal conflict, an evolution toward an open society not unlike what we were seeing elsewhere in the communist world.

In Poland and Hungary another remarkable event took place this past weekend. For the first time in that part of the political universe since the Second World War—or I suppose more precisely since 1956 in Hungary and events leading up to that that were suppressed in 1968 in Czechoslovakia—there has been what seemed to be a hope for humanity in these parts of the world. High among these nations was what was taking place in China.

It was led with remarkable courage not only by the students in Beijing but with overwhelming support by the population in that cityas we have seen in recent weeks.

We saw this courageous reaching out for freedom of one of the colossal nations of this world brutally and violently suppressed by a Government or part of a Government, by the Army or part of the Army, certainly those with power in China, in a way that is clearly unconscionable.

There are times in human history when violence is justified, that is, only to defend oneself or one nation defending itself. However, to use violence against the defenceless, to use violence against men and women who have been peacefully demonstrating for freedom and democratic rights is an abomination that ought to be condemned by free people everywhere.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[Translation]

Mr. Broadbent: In concluding, I simply want to say, Mr. Speaker, that we support the Government's decision to take the action announced by the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Clark) this evening. We hope that the Chinese people, in the days to come, will develop an approach that is without violence.

[English]

We hope that people who have authority in that great nation will sense the indignation and moral revulsion that is occurring among people in every nation of the world, whatever the political ideology. There seems finally emerging among the majority of nations a sense of human rights and human dignity that is causing us all on a global basis to respond to this callous and cruel action in China.

Let us hope that those with power and authority, rather than dissolving as the Minister has indicated is likely into what can turn out to be an horrific civil war, will come together, will bring peace to that troubled land, and will make up to their own people having created now a date that will live forever in the history of China. Those with authority now have a lot of mending to do and a lot of soul wrenching acts to take. Let us hope those with power and authority will come to peace with their own people in China.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!