

and a sense of direction for many other countries which have now followed in our wake by saying: "If you are going to break fundamental rules, then we had better pull those rules back for re-examination."

It is that particular sense of principle that we tried to establish last Labour Day, and which I hope will provide the foundation which we require to take further initiatives in the international community in order to provide for better protection. We will be at the meetings on September 15, the special emergency meetings of the International Civil Aviation Organization, representing a resolution requiring a full inquiry and investigation into the incident of the Korean airliner and the Soviet Union explosion.

Stepping beyond that requirement for investigation, Mr. Speaker, at the assembly itself, the tri-annual assembly, we will also be making the case that the international community, all partners within it, look at the basic fundamental freedoms of international travel, the rules which apply to it and the technical requirements to improve upon it. It would be my hope in the ensuing debate of this House on this particular resolution that Hon. Members of the Commons would express not only their feelings but their sense of commitment to the need for further strengthening and enhancement of the international rule of law, the international sense that you must put into place institutions, procedures, rules and obligations upon all nations if we are to have any kind of interdependence, any kind of acceptable mutual requirement for living together on this particular globe. Whether it is in the field of international civil aviation, refugee problems or arms control, if we do not come to grips with those kinds of issues and come up with answers, then we as people responsible for trying to pull some meaning and sense out of this tragedy in the Sakhalin Islands will have failed in our responsibilities.

● (2130)

So it is my hope, Mr. Speaker, that as the debate on this resolution ensues, the steps taken by this Government do not only express the feelings of the Canadian people but try to go one step further, and that initiatives to build and develop guidelines to provide for protection, security and a greater sense of international responsibility will be supported by Members of this House. Because with the House's support we feel we will have the strength to continue and retrieve something better out of this tragedy that we all so deeply regret.

**Mr. Harvie Andre (Calgary Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I know there are a great number of Members of this House who want to participate in this debate and I will not be long. Let me first join with those who have spoken tonight and others who have spoken before this night in offering my condolences to the families of those who have lost their lives on Korean Airlines Flight 007. Let me also identify myself with the remarks of the Hon. Member for Oshawa (Mr. Broadbent), the Leader of the NDP who introduced this motion and this debate. Let me also identify myself with the remarks of the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. MacEachen), as well as those of the

spokesman on External Affairs in my Party, the Hon. Member for York-Peel (Mr. Stevens).

I was a little bit surprised, Mr. Speaker, at the remarks of the Minister of Transport (Mr. Axworthy). I hesitate to bring in a partisan note to this debate, but as I sat here listening, I got the impression that somehow it was the system that failed us and resulted in the shooting down of KAL Flight 007. If only we had a better system. Well, Mr. Speaker, humanity, the fundamental human character, provides a standard which says it is simply inhuman to shoot down a civilian passenger airliner. You cannot get over that fact. We have a system. We have international agreements. Supposedly we have a planet made up of human beings not too dissimilar from each other and who find that kind of action repulsive. He says he wants us to join together in working out some new agreement, some new system of recognition, so that this will not happen again. Mr. Speaker, what kind of agreement or treaty can we write which would somehow stop those who have lied about this tragedy, those who gave the order to shoot down a 747 loaded with civilians?

The Minister talks about the goal of a more tolerant, interdependent world. That is recognized as a goal we all seek, but I do not think he is contributing, quite frankly, to better understanding by failing to acknowledge just what happened to Flight 007. The act of murder committed by the Soviet Union in shooting down KAL Flight 007 cannot be condemned in words too harsh. When innocent civilians are killed or injured in a war between armies, by terrorists or revolutionaries in pursuit of political goals, or even by a lunatic or criminal acting alone, we can and do mourn the pain caused by the inhumanity of the perpetrators. But when the act is caused by a deliberate decision of the government of one of the world's superpowers, we mourn the loss of life but we also shudder at the implications for the world.

Accidents happen, Mr. Speaker. Errors in judgment occur. While we may get angry at any loss of life, we can understand the need to forgive when culpability is admitted and regret expressed. But, Mr. Speaker, the shooting down of KAL Flight 007 with the loss of 269 lives was not, according to the U.S.S.R., an accident for which they express regret but a deliberate act which they insist was justified and which they say they would repeat in similar circumstances. That, Mr. Speaker, is frightening because of what it says about the people running this vast superpower.

The Soviet Government, in defending this outrageous proposition, states that Soviet territory is sacred. But this same Government has so far this year alone intruded into North American air space 77 times with military aircraft. Submarines from the U.S.S.R. have intruded into militarily sensitive areas in Sweden and Norway at least three times this year. Now, if the Soviet Union is to be believed or if we look at what they do in practice, of all the earth only Soviet territory is sacred; everything else is available for intervention by Soviet military aircraft and ships.

Imagine the reverse situation, Mr. Speaker. Let us imagine for a moment that a Canadian or American military craft shot