

*Government Orders*

Why is the world not outraged by the actions of the Soviet Union in the Baltic states? Those Baltic states were annexed by the then dictator of the Soviet Union, Joseph Stalin. He annexed those countries and we, in the west, have never recognized that annexation.

What we hear from the government side is that we have a new order and that the Soviet Union is supporting the United States in the Middle East. Certainly, it is supporting the United States in the Middle East because the United States had to withdraw most of its armed forces from Europe to send them to the Middle East.

The same thing happened in 1956 when Hungary was looking to a democratic society. At that time, the Soviet Union invaded Hungary and crushed the new democratic government of Hungary, and the west abandoned Hungary because it was preoccupied with the Suez crisis.

The same thing is happening today. The western powers have concentrated on the crisis in the Middle East and the invasion of Kuwait. At the same time, the Lithuanian people and the new democratic governments of Latvia and Estonia are being crushed by the tanks of the Soviet Union.

Even so, the Government of Canada and the House had a unanimous resolution to condemn those actions of the Soviet Union. It is only lip service. Is the Canadian government and the House going to ask the United Nations Security Council to debate the question of Lithuania? I hope we do, but, as somebody said, we have the Soviet Union on the question of Kuwait and Kuwait has 10 per cent of the oil reserves of the world. Naturally, Iraq, by invading Kuwait, now controls 20 per cent of the known oil reserves of the world. Why are we fighting in Iraq? We are fighting because there is oil and there does not seem to be any oil in Lithuania, Estonia, or Latvia.

• (1940)

We are fighting there because the American President believes that there must be a security of supply of cheap oil for some nations.

Are we defending a democratic country in the Middle East? Are we defending democracy there? I say that Kuwait is controlled by a family, a sheikh who abandoned and closed down the democratic process and parliament three years ago. This same sheikh who has invested \$100 billion in the United States is able to buy the defence of his own country.

But this same country, Kuwait, had over 600,000 foreign workers and many Palestinians living there for 20 years who were never given the same rights as the Kuwaitis. They were exploited. The United Nations should have asked the government of Kuwait to give those people the right to vote and to participate in the administration of that country. Some of them have lived there for 20 and more years.

As we know, Kuwait was established by the British in 1961. Before that it was part of the Ottoman Empire and part of the province of Basra. This is why Iraq claimed that this was part of its territory.

We have been supporting Iraq, and the United States and the western powers have been arming Iraq when it was fighting the Iranians. One of the biggest supporters of Iraq was Saudi Arabia because it was doing the dirty job for them, fighting the fundamentalism of the Muslims as it was practised in Iran.

We have a certain responsibility because we helped Iraq to get arms. We used the Iraqi people and we helped Mr. Saddam Hussein. Suddenly, once he had done the dirty work, he became an enemy. Mr. Bush has now associated himself with a dictator in Syria, one known to have been a terrorist all over the world. Now he is a good man. Suddenly he is helping Saudi Arabia and the United States, and he is our friend in the fight against the Iraqi people.

As the war progresses, there is more and more damage done to the economy of the Middle East and it will take many years to rebuild that economy and the instability is going to continue.

I would like to come back to the question of the link between the Middle East conference and the question of Kuwait.

I have the impression that the world, if it wants to be peaceful, has to see the problem that exists in Israel, which wants to be secure in its borders. I agree it has to have security, but it has to understand as well that it cannot live peacefully as long as there are camps in the West Bank in Gaza; as long as there are refugees in camps in Jordan.

I had the occasion to meet Mr. Arafat and talk with him. He told me he would be ready to have a state even without an army for the Palestinian people as long as it would be the Palestinian state that was created by the United Nations in 1947.