

Government Orders

An hon. member: Order.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): A point of order, the hon. member for Markham—Whitchurch—Stouffville.

Mr. Attewell: I want to protest in the strongest terms. That was not a fictitious name. This woman Janet van Nostrand, her husband Dr. Peter—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The hon. member for Parkdale—High Park.

Mr. Flis: Mr. Speaker, I did not mean any offence. If I said anything that offended, I withdraw that, Mr. Speaker.

The message is that this government does not have a clear foreign policy. This government does not have a process by which it consults Canadians, does not have a process to work through the standing committees. Why do we have standing committees? So that your constituents, so that someone speaking on behalf of them, could present that to the standing committees and to this House. We would like to hear more of that.

I am sorry, but over the summer I did not hear many of those comments. The ones I heard—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The hon. member for Burnaby—Kingsway on a question or comment.

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby—Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, I wanted to just point out that when Janet van Nostrand's son, Lieutenant John, was sent to the Middle

East that he and the 955 other soldiers who were sent assumed that they were being sent to the Gulf of Oman because Commodore Ken Summers, who spoke on behalf of the navy at that time, indicated that that is where they would be sent, well beyond the possible reach of Iraqi missiles. I think the record should be very clear on that point and that that is why there should have been a recall.

I just have a very straightforward question for the member who has just spoken. That is with respect to the position of the Official Opposition on the government motion, assuming that the subamendment and the amendment which have been proposed by the opposition parties are defeated, and I welcome the hon. member's support for those, is it the position of the Official Opposition then that they will be opposing the government motion?

Mr. Flis: Mr. Speaker, in my speech I took the House through the amendment and I expressed which parts we can support and which parts we cannot. I also mentioned that our critic is in negotiations with the Secretary of State for External Affairs. I hope that the NDP party will do the same so that we can up with a motion that all three parties will support.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): It being six o'clock, this House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 11 o'clock a.m., pursuant to Standing Order 24(1).

The House adjourned at 5.59 p.m.