Invoking of War Measures Act

We must use whatever lawful means are at our disposal to crush these bandits and common criminals who would destroy our nation. I further suggest that no person in this country need fear the loss of civil liberties except those who are trying to deny the rest of us those same liberties. The kidnappings were unfortunate. God knows, we are all praying that these men will come out of this situation alive. It is unfortunate that it took this tragedy to precipitate us into action and to realize how serious and dangerous the situation has become. In my view we have no right to spend the public's hard-earned money, garnered through taxation, to support and encourage certain of the means of communication in this country to subvert our own people. I do not think it takes much imagination, when you turn on a television set or a radio set, to know what I am talking about.

• (9:00 p.m.)

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Cafik: We see these people subsidized as they spread their voices of hate across this nation. We recently set up a Committee on Pollution to clean up our rivers, streams and air. Surely to God we can do something to clean up the filth that is being passed into the minds of those who live in this country by those who would subvert us.

I suggest that the government give serious consideration to the passage of a special act in this Parliament. For want of a special name I would entitle it the "Security of the Nation Act." It would clearly set out what lies before those who would try to destroy us, so that they would know their rights and we would know what powers we had to deal with them. Such an act ought to be introduced into the House and debated, with everyone having a chance to express his view.

I further suggest that the government give consideration to the following ideas in connection with the act to which I have referred. First, I believe capital punishment should be reintroduced and made applicable to anyone who blackmails the state, its elected officials or those who are entrusted with the enforcement of the law, such as magistrates and judges. Second, capital punishment should be the penalty for kidnapping and hijacking which endangers the lives of human beings. Third, it should apply to bombing or other acts of violence directed against the state where danger to human life is involved. Fourth, we should deport those who come to this country to encourage the commitment of any of the offences to which I have referred.

I do not think we can afford to tolerate those who advocate political violence in this country if they are not Canadian citizens. Indeed, I wonder whether such people should be tolerated even when they are Canadian citizens. Fourth, I believe that those who belong to associations which advocate the use of violence for political purposes should be regarded as having committed a criminal offence, the penalty for which is a minimum of five years in jail. Fifth, I believe that special powers should be provided in any such act to enable law enforcement officers to deal with insurrection in an effec-

tive way. This would not be easy, because this section of the legislation would make permanent such things as arrest without a charge being preferred, and so on. Perhaps this section should only be implemented on the orders of the Governor in Council. Sixth, I believe we also have to make provision ensuring that those charged with sedition or treasonable activity are brought to trial more quickly.

In addition, I believe two further steps should be taken, though they have nothing to do with the act I have proposed. The government, in concert with other governments, should make arrangements with friendly nations—indeed, with all nations, as far as possible—in an effort to have the death penalty imposed for international kidnapping and hijacking offences. Efforts should be made to agree that such countries would not submit to national or international blackmail in any shape or form. If this were done, we might see an end to violence of the kind which is so prevalent today. I also suggest that in conjunction with other states we should take action against those nations which give political asylum to people who perpetrate such crimes. I support the interim measure which is now before us. Like everyone else, I am unhappy that it should be necessary. But it is necessary, and I hope the government will take action by setting up a separate act to deal with this situation in a permanent way in future.

I wish, now, to make some comments on observations made by hon. members opposite. I, too, am disappointed at the reaction of some members of the opposition. I know that were I an opposition member I would have supported this motion, outlined the potential dangers and put the government on notice that it ought to be very careful, and that if it did not exercise these great powers in a responsible way I would be on their tail. I do not think it behooves anyone in this House to oppose this drastic measure taken in order to ensure the security of our country. The leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. Douglas) said earlier today that if he were the captain of this ship of state, one of his first acts would be to get rid of me, a barnacle on the ship of state.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Cafik: Some of you may laugh. You are the very ones who are getting up and crying for the civil rights of the people of this country, yet attempting to deny me mine.

Some hon. Members: Shame!

Mr. Cafik: I am no less important in this chamber than any of the members opposite or those on this side of the House, and when I have something to say, I intend to say it.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Cafik: I suggest that the leader of the New Democratic Party ought to be very careful before making such stupid and senseless statements. It is unfortunate that I have been so kind to him, but that is my nature. I should