Government Orders

I say, in conclusion, that these questions are difficult. There are moral questions and there are military questions. These should not rest solely with one of our closest friends. They should rest in the United Nations. As our government participates, it should be bringing back to this House of Commons, on a regular basis, a report—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): On a point of order, the hon. member for Burnaby—Kingsway.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Speaker, I very much regret to interrupt the hon. member. I know he was just concluding. But I believe that if the Speaker seeks the consent of the House, he would find that there would be agreement to sit during the lunch hour—we are coming to one o'clock now—in order that other members might fully participate in this very important debate.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Is there unanimous consent?

Mr. Boudria: Mr. Speaker, there would be unanimous consent on our side. I just want to add one element and that is if the House agrees, we have some sort of understanding that we not call quorum calls or other dilatory motions during that period between one o'clock and two o'clock.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Is it so agreed?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Debate. The hon. member may continue. He has one minute left.

Mr. Walker: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I accept the interruption. It gives us on this side a chance to continue this very, very important debate.

• (1300)

In conclusion, one of the most famous current writers on international politics, Paul Kennedy, has observed that the history of international affairs over the past five centuries has all too frequently been a history of warfare or at least the preparation of warfare. Here we are, in an historical context, in the preparation of warfare.

I call upon the government to remember its obligations to the House of Commons in reporting back to us regularly. I call upon the Canadian government to remember its commitment to the United Nations. Mr. Fred J. Mifflin (Bonavista—Trinity—Conception): Mr. Speaker, I would like to compliment my hon. colleague for such a learned dissertation and for looking at aspects of this problem that we are facing with perhaps different parameters than we have heard in the House so far. I am very pleased to be able to report on this. I am sure his background has given him a different slant on the kind of operation we are involved in.

I would like to pose a question to my hon. friend, partly by way of a comment and partly to seek his views on this particular aspect of it. He did dwell on the United Nations aspect of this particular crisis. As I understand it, if there is any such thing as a model operation in the United Nations and it being followed by one of the superpowers, the superpower on our side in this particular case, I think we are looking at one now.

The sequence of events as I understand it was a model progression. We had resolutions identifying that there was aggression and there was fast agreement on that. We had calls for compliance, for non-military sanctions, and then we moved on to a stronger, more offensive term called blockades. Only if these measures are not successful do we contemplate any kind of military enforcement action.

As I suggested, these steps have never been more faithfully followed and I have been following this matter for a while. The clear objective, as I stated in my presentation an hour or so ago, is to get Iraq out of Kuwait and keep it out.

I maintain that we are looking at a slightly different operation from anything we have ever seen before, because of the cold war and because although Hussein is fairly clever about the way he went about his business, I think he forgot there would be relatively fast agreement on the resolutions in the United Nations by close to 30 countries that they would participate in this peacemaking operation. I perceive with small evidence—but I am buttressed and given confidence—that we may be looking at the beginning of a new world order.

Indeed I think I suggested we may be looking at something that could be the basic crossroads in the evolution of an international world order. Although it is ad hoc, impromptu and kind of rag-tag right now, this operation could be the beginning of a world police force, a world order. Although it is not as well put together, command and control-wise, i.e. under the United Na-