

*Oral Questions***YUGOSLAVIA**

Mr. Jesse Flis (Parkdale—High Park): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the right hon. Prime Minister concerning the crisis in Yugoslavia.

The latest cease-fire with the basic terms being to lift the naval blockade, withdraw troops from the barrack areas, and begin the distribution of release supplies to the cities is the most promising to date.

It is essential that the international community do everything in its power to ensure, unlike previous cease-fires, that this one has a chance to succeed.

Would the Prime Minister share with Canadians what additional action the Canadian government has taken today to ensure strict adherence to the cease-fire by all parties involved and to bring an end to the unnecessary violence and bloodshed in Yugoslavia?

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, my hon. friend may recall that the Government of Canada was the first government to prevail upon the Secretary-General of the United Nations to involve himself and his organization in the great tragedy that was unfolding in Yugoslavia.

As a result of that and subsequent actions taken by other G-7 members, the Secretary-General of the United Nations appointed Mr. Cyrus Vance as a special envoy to Yugoslavia. He is to depart imminently, we understand, for Yugoslavia and help arrange a cease-fire that we believe and hope will be permanent and durable.

To that end Canada originally asked for the invocation of the United Nations special authority. We offered concurrent with that the presence of Canadian peace-keeping forces as an important component of a more global and comprehensive United Nations approach to the Yugoslav tragedy.

We are happy to see that progress along these lines is being made because we believe that the dimensions of the tragedy in Yugoslavia are so enormous that it took more than the European community, that it would take the intervention of the UN Security Council, and that process has now begun.

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HAITI

Mrs. Christine Stewart (Northumberland): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is also for the Prime Minister.

Yesterday the OAS, in its efforts to return President Aristide to power in Haiti, corroborated the recommendations of Aristide by calling for a trade embargo against Haiti. Our Secretary of State for External Affairs offered Canadian participation in an international observer team to monitor Haitian human rights situations and to bolster democratic institutions.

I would like to know what specific action the government has taken here in Canada to implement and support these statements.

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, we have been very active. The Secretary of State for External Affairs is one of the architects of the policy of the OAS. She very ably and I think courageously represented Canada's interests in Haiti in extremely difficult circumstances. She has participated in putting together a package of sanctions and other pacific means of causing the will of the OAS to be implemented and respected.

We are acting on that and a number of other fronts to try and bring about the reinstallation, the restoration of the democratically elected president of Haiti. To that end we have volunteered, for example, the presence of civilian Canadians as part of a larger OAS or United Nations force. This is because we believe that one of the errors that was made was that while peacekeeping observers were sent in advance of the elections, democracy and democratic institutions in Haiti are much too embryonic to have been left alone immediately thereafter.

There is a very important role for the United Nations and the OAS in making sure that a commission of surveillance be there to assist in revitalizing democratic institutions in Haiti which have not existed there forever and a day.

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FISHERIES

Mr. George S. Baker (Gander—Grand Falls): Mr. Speaker, in St. John's, Newfoundland this morning offices of the fishermen's union were attacked by an angry and frustrated group of fishermen. They are threatening to do the same thing with the federal fisheries offices as well.