

*Adjournment Debate*

I have had the pleasure of dealing with Network on several occasions, most recently to celebrate the release of Anatoly Shcharansky with Naomi Noyek, the chairperson of Anti-Terrorism Day 1986, and Dan Ronen, the chairperson of Network's Political Action Committee.

On March 11, these students will be meeting with Members of Parliament, holding a memorial for victims of terrorism on Parliament Hill at 2 p.m. at which Mr. Edward Leonard and his Member of Parliament, the Hon. Member for Bow River (Mr. Taylor) will be present. A panel discussion on international terrorism with students and Members of Parliament will be held at 3.30 p.m.

I commend Network to my colleagues in the House of Commons and the other place, and I hope they will find the time either to meet with the students on that day or, if the schedule does not allow, at least to focus their attention on the issue of international terrorism.

No society or individual is immune to terrorism. It is time for Canada to take a leading role in combating this insidious cancer of terrorism.

**Mr. Chuck Cook (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, speaking before the Memorial Fund Committee on November 3, the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Clark) stated that freedom to travel safety was the very essence of what international order was all about, and that there was a real danger that global terrorism would come to dominate the international order. In Canada we have been painfully aware of the tragedies visited upon us by international terrorism and, as the Secretary of State for External Affairs said, we intend that Canada should be in the forefront of countries seeking new initiatives to combat it.

● (1815)

The international community has become sensitized to the issue. In specialized bodies such as the Milan Crime Conference and the International Maritime Organization, resolutions have been passed condemning international terrorism. On Friday, December 6, for the first time, a strong anti-terrorist resolution was unanimously adopted at the United Nations General Assembly. It urged the further development of international co-operation on the prosecution and punishment of acts of hostage taking and abductions as manifestations of international terrorism.

Canada is determined that the scourge of international terrorism should come to an end. We have taken steps within the country to strengthen the security of our airports, and more will be done. Canada deposited its instruments of ratification of the U.N. Convention on Hostage Taking on December 4 and is undertaking negotiations with a number of countries to establish or strengthen extradition arrangements, an essential step in deterring potential terrorists.

More needs to be done. Despite the blows that have recently been struck against international terrorism, the phenomenon is by no means defeated, and the threat to the international order

and to civilized international conduct is still grave. I must emphasize that Canada remains determined in dealing with the immediate impact of this tragic phenomenon. Canada will come to grips with its underlying causes and will do everything possible to ensure that Canada's airports and ships remain safe for Canadians to travel anywhere.

[Translation]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE—DIFFICULTIES FACING EARLY RETIREES. (B) SCOPE OF REGULATION

**Mr. Alfonso Gagliano (Saint-Léonard-Anjou):** Mr. Speaker, last February 25 I put a question to the Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. Nielsen). According to a report by the *Office de la construction du Québec*, 5,432 pensioners will not be entitled to unemployment insurance, despite the fact they have paid premiums.

Mr. Speaker, we seldom get answers from the Government side, but now and again they are so illogical that we have to raise the issue again on the late show, we simply have to try again in the hope of some clarification.

Mr. Speaker, the illogical answer was: "The matter is before the Forget Commission and they will be reporting in due course." Mr. Speaker, if the Government were really serious, if the Government really wanted to wait until the Forget Commission has dealt with the problem, why not wait until the Forget Commission complete their work and make their report public? Should the commission report suggest that retirees did not have the right to collect unemployment insurance after working and paying premiums, then they would say: Well, according to the report, such and such regulation applies.

However, Mr. Speaker, without notice or comment, an unfair and insensitive regulation has been enforced since January 5.

Mr. Speaker, particularly in the construction industry there are people between 50 and 55 and even 60 who may have decided to accept early retirement in 1981, 1982, 1983 or 1984. A worker might have figured he would be eligible for monthly payments from his retirement fund contributions, or again he might have worked a few weeks in the summer when the weather is fine and, at the time of early retirement, this work would have made him eligible for unemployment benefits to supplement his income and take care of his children. As a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, I know specific cases of people in my riding who have retired early from construction jobs and still have children attending high school or university.

It is not fair for these two or three people who accepted to take an early retirement that the Government decided on January 5, 1986 to cut off their unemployment insurance benefits. Naturally, this means that they will not be able to send their children to university, and this is why I find this decision unfair, Mr. Speaker.