

signing of the boycott related transaction as well as those after its signing. Mr. Speaker, unless this is the case that part of the government's statement about withholding services has very limited meaning and value.

If the government is serious about what it said in that statement in connection with condemning international boycotts interfering with Canadian trade with friendly countries, and interfering with business and other relations between Canadians in this country, it must implement the two measures that it announced last October 21 in the fullest possible way rather than in the most limited, narrow, and meaningless way. But, more important, it must act on the findings of the Citizens' Commission on Economic Coercion and Discrimination, a report demonstrating the impact of the Arab boycott in particular in Canada, a report, by the way, to which the government has not yet formally responded. It must put into effect legislation of general application applying to all businesses, whether or not they need government support. If it does not do so, as the report points out, it is undermining its own policy on international boycotts. It is allowing foreign governments to extend their discriminatory law into Canada.

● (2210)

Surely the essential tasks of our national government are to protect our country's sovereignty and to afford the equal protection of our laws to all residing within our borders. Unless it brings forward all the measures necessary to make fully operative its October 21 policy on international boycotts, the government will not be carrying out these responsibilities in the way expected by Canadians generally.

I think that Canadians generally would join me in calling on the government for full and meaningful action to put its policy statement of October 21 into effect in a way that really means

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business and protects Canadian rights and Canadian sovereignty.

Mr. Ralph E. Goodale (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I am here this evening to respond on behalf of the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Gillespie) and his parliamentary secretary. I want to begin by commending the hon. member for Windsor West (Mr. Gray) for the obvious sincerity and conviction with which he expressed his views this evening.

The procedures laid down in the deputy minister's instructions of January 1, 1977, are consistent with the policy of the Canadian government on international economic boycotts.

Through the instructions, the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce is ensuring that its services are withdrawn or withheld in cases where a Canadian firm or individual has agreed to international economic boycott provisions of a type which contravene the government's policy on such boycotts.

The reporting requirement under which the department would publicize the names of companies or individuals from whom services and support have been withdrawn or withheld for contravening the government's policy on boycotts is a responsible and practical way of reinforcing the government's policy in this area. To go beyond these measures would not, in fact, give any greater consequence to these measures and could jeopardize the development of normal trade which did not contravene government policy.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): Order, please. A motion to adjourn the House is now deemed to have been adopted. Accordingly, this House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 11 a.m.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.16 p.m.