

*Government Orders*

**Mr. Jack Shields (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister for International Trade):** Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to be taking part in this debate at this very important time.

I would like to point out that since my election in 1980 as the member of Parliament for Athabasca I have often found myself visiting the Memorial Chamber in the Peace Tower. I have very seldom looked at the Korean *Book of Remembrance* and I was unable to recognize the name of someone now buried in the UN cemetery in Pusan in Korea. These were Canadians who took part in an earlier UN action, the Korean war.

Some of us, as young men, joined the special force for Korea because we wanted adventure and because we were too young to participate in the Second World War. We really thought that we had missed something. But my experience was that, very soon after arriving in South Korea, this feeling of adventurism disappeared when we saw the poverty and the homeless Korean people, men, women, and children, refugees in their own country. Many were homeless and living by the roadside, but they expressed in many ways their sincere appreciation for our being there. Sometimes they offered to share their meagre possessions, perhaps an egg or an apple. That touched us deeply.

But the most important thing going for the troops in Korea at the time was the support we received from Canadians, letters, parcels, visits to the theatre by members of Parliament, visits by the defence minister of the day, and newspapers from home expressing praise in our efforts. There was unanimous support.

The feeling of adventurism changed to one of real pride and the realization that we were there to preserve world security and world peace as a member of the United Nations. We all seemed to walk a little taller and with a great deal of pride.

We fought alongside other forces from other countries with that multinational United Nations group. We fought alongside British regiments, Australian regiments, New Zealand artillery, the Turk regiments, American marines, American cavalry, Scottish regiments, Irish regiments, Welsh regiments, and the Korean regiments themselves.

I am absolutely convinced that if we had not had the 100 per cent support of our government and if we had not had the 100 per cent support of Canadians from coast to coast, this pride I talked about would not have

developed. Our schools, our hometowns, and our families were all supporting us and expressing pride in what we were doing with the special force under United Nations sanction in Korea.

Today we have become involved in a United Nations sanctioned war in the Middle East together with a multinational force, over 30 of our allies. Madam Speaker, can you imagine for a moment—and I would ask all members in this House to imagine for one moment—how our troops will feel if there is continued division in this House of Commons? Can you imagine how families of the men and women of our Armed Forces in the gulf will feel if we do not leave this debate with less than the 100 per cent support of the House of Commons?

We must leave this debate with constructive, non-partisan, 100 per cent support. We must give total support, without reservation of any kind, to Canada. We must make sure our troops have the very best support and equipment possible. We must leave no question whatsoever in the minds of our forces that we stand 100 per cent with them.

• (1520)

I urge—indeed, I plead—with all members of the House to end this debate. Put partisanship behind us, regardless of our differences, and give 100 per cent support to our government and to our country, Canada.

**Mr. Rey Pagtakhan (Winnipeg North):** Madam Speaker, I would like to comment and pose a question of my colleague.

Certainly, I would like to remind my colleagues that three decades and three years ago, when accepting the Nobel Prize for Peace, Mr. Lester B. Pearson, one of our greatest Prime Ministers, said: "The grim fact is we prepare for war like precocious giants and for peace like retarded pygmies." Sadly, Mr. Pearson's words ring true today as this government has chosen war to end the illegal occupation of Kuwait by Iraq.

There is no question that the House and all Canadians have condemned the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq. There is no question that the United Nations has condemned this invasion as well and we have supported the United Nations resolutions. But I would like to remind the House that the United Nations resolutions have given us two broad options: the peaceful approach to peace and the war approach to peace. Now that we are at war, let us not forget that peace is still obtainable through methods