

*Government Orders*

This is truly collective security in action, and as a founding member of the United Nations, Canada too must play a role.

I cannot help but feel that there is a sad and perhaps in some ways poetic justice in the fact that it is a modern tyrant, Saddam Hussein, who unwittingly, I am sure, has brought about unprecedented revitalization of the United Nations.

The preamble to the Charter of the United Nations speaks about the determination to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, about faith in fundamental human rights, about the dignity and worth of the human person, and about the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small.

It goes on to say that "to unite our strength, to maintain international peace and security, and to ensure that armed force shall not be used, save in the common interest" we "have resolved to combine our efforts to accomplish these aims".

I am convinced that the recent actions of the Security Council and the member states of the United Nations are a true embodiment of how its original architects, with the bitter experience of two world wars behind them, intended the organization to function.

Canada was one of those architects. It is entirely fitting, therefore, that our United Nations mission has taken such an active role in opposing this type of naked aggression. The countries of the international community have put aside their differences, both past and present, to voice their unwillingness to countenance Iraq's behaviour by agreeing to implement the strongest UN Security Council resolutions since the Korean war.

I would remind the House that in an historic display of unanimity the Security Council has taken the following measures. It has condemned the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and called upon Baghdad to withdraw its forces from that country. It has imposed a trade embargo on Iraq and made it virtually impossible for Iraqi oil to reach foreign customers. It has refused to recognize the incorporation of Kuwait into Iraq. It has deplored Iraq's treatment of foreign nationals and demanded their immediate release. It has authorized the use of force to implement the economic embargo and has only permitted the import of food into Iraq for humanitarian relief.

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But, like other tyrants before him, Saddam Hussein is unlikely to be deterred by resolutions that are not backed by concerted action on the part of the world community. We, in co-operation with like-minded nations, must demonstrate in concrete terms that aggressors will not profit from their callous disregard of the international norms of civilized behaviour.

The nations of the world are being given a new chance to develop an international system to save succeeding generations from the scourge of aggression, to reinforce the rule of law, to decree that henceforth the world community will tolerate only the peaceful resolutions of disputes.

To this end we must from time to time be prepared to support our noble words with concrete measures. Our actions must lend credibility to our philosophy, or the tyrants of this world will not be deterred.

That is why the founders of the United Nations made specific provisions for the enforcement actions under chapter VII of the UN Charter. Article 42 of the charter that has been quoted often in this House states:

—should the Security Council consider that measures provided for in article 41 would be inadequate or have proved to be inadequate, it may take such action by air, sea, or land forces as may be necessary to maintain or restore international peace and security. Such action may include demonstrations, blockade, and other operations by air, sea, or land forces of members of the United Nations.

These measures were designed to deal with threats to peace or acts of aggression when all other measures had failed. This is precisely the action taken by the Security Council on August 6.

The government felt that the passage of the Security Council Resolution 660 condemning the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and 661 authorizing the imposition of economic sanctions provided a sufficient rationale to commit elements of the Canadian forces to the multinational efforts in the Persian Gulf.

Only hours after our ships departed the Security Council passed Resolution 665 calling upon those states which were to deploy maritime forces in the region to take such measures as were necessary to ensure strict implementation of the embargo. The effectiveness of this implementation process was further enhanced when the Security Council passed Resolution 670 approving an air embargo against Iraq.