

demonstration at the United Nations earlier this week clearly showed. In the process, it has violated the rights of a number of citizens of third countries, including Canadians.

It has caused economic chaos, seriously affecting oil importers in the Third World and their fragile economy, who see oil prices going beyond their reach. As well, in a very real sense, it has upset the prospects of many nations heavily dependent on remittances from workers in Kuwait.

In the interests of buttressing his uncertain position, Saddam Hussein has tried to open up rifts between those opposed to him, cynically attempting to exploit every possibility for division and dissension.

In the face of this, our country has, on the diplomatic front, worked tirelessly since the beginning of this crisis at the United Nations. There we have played an active part in our role as a member of the Security Council and in our contacts with countries around the world.

The 10 resolutions which have been passed to date on the gulf crisis were the result of the careful attention to the concerns of all the members of the Security Council. It was Canada's expressed aim to ensure that maximum agreement would be achieved.

The result was the absolute unanimity of the permanent five on all 10 resolutions and the unanimous support of the entire membership of the council for five of those resolutions.

Canada co-chairs the 661 committee concerned with the monitoring and enforcement of the sanctions.

The Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for External Affairs have had dozens of meetings with other world leaders. We have used Canadian diplomatic resources world-wide to develop and maintain a united international position on the unacceptability of Iraq's invasion.

That is what we have done diplomatically. Militarily, we have sent Canadian forces to the gulf region to deter further aggression and to assist in the enforcement of United Nations sanctions against Iraq.

### *Government Orders*

[*Translation*]

Respect of the sanctions has been what one could have expected. The problem is knowing whether they will have the desired effect in the near future.

Imposition and continued application of the sanctions has not been and will not be sufficient *per se* to compel the government of Iraq to withdraw, if it continues to give a higher priority to its occupation of Kuwait than to restoration of everyday life for its citizens. It must be remembered that over the past few years, Iraqis have become accustomed to certain hardships because of the eight-year war with Iran from 1980 to 1988.

The invasion of Kuwait was a disastrous decision on the part of the government of Iraq. It underestimated the opposition of the international community and did not take into account the new spirit of co-operation between the superpowers. It misjudged the acceptability of such ventures for other Arab countries.

The United Nations showed unparalleled unity in voting a series of resolutions which unequivocally condemned Iraq's initiative. Canada played a major role in obtaining and maintaining that unanimity.

Some wonder why the international community initiated such harsh measures against Iraq when other disputes and inequities persist.

It is because, in the history of the United Nations, this is the first time one member state tries to wipe out and wholly absorb another.

Past errors by the international community cannot be allowed to stand in the way of a solution to this crisis. The remarkable consensus obtained in the face of Iraqi aggression may show how to resolve other disputes. This is why the United Nations came into being. If a positive and unequivocal example can be made in this case, it may facilitate future solutions.

• (1910)

[*English*]

The progressive destruction of Kuwait, the immense costs of maintaining the military build-up in the gulf, the slowness with which the sanctions are apparently making themselves felt, and the isolation of Saddam Hussein from the reality of his situation, have now brought us to the stage where we face the need for further action.