

*Government Orders*

Finally, in answer to the member's question, three members of this House, one from each political party visited Iraq. They said that from their observations the sanctions were working. If there is doubt with respect to the sanctions, if there are leaks as alleged by the hon. member for Bourassa and the right hon. Secretary of State for External Affairs, then surely the answer is not war. The answer is to refer this matter back to the Security Council to re-examine the issue, find out where the sanctions are lacking and how they can be strengthened.

• (1530)

When the Security Council established the sanctions in August, it also established a committee to monitor those sanctions. That committee has not yet reported back in an official manner to the Security Council, which should be done. If there is division of opinion as to whether the sanctions are effective or if there are leaks along the Iranian and Syrian borders, that should be examined by that monitoring committee of the Security Council. It should be officially reported to the Security Council. Then the Security Council can decide what should be done. Either it will make further recommendations to strengthen the sanctions to block the holes or then it could decide to go to war.

Unfortunately, in my opinion, contrary to chapter 7 of the charter of the United Nations, it proceeded to the powers under article 42 without thoroughly exhausting the powers under article 41. It says very clearly in the charter that you cannot resort to military action until you are assured that non-military means to settle a dispute have been tried and failed.

No report has been officially given to the United Nations by the monitoring committee on the sanctions that they are not working. I say to this House that the decision to take military action before that was done is wrong.

If the member for Bourassa is right, if the Secretary of State for External Affairs is right that there are gaps in the sanctions, that they will not impact on the military strength of Iraq, then that should be taken up by the Security Council. They should ask for a report from the monitoring committee and then deal with this in the proper way.

**Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport):** Madam Speaker, in congratulating the member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce on his very fine intervention last night and this after-

noon, I would like to ask him to comment on the following statement made by the Secretary of State for External Affairs last October when he said: "We should not rule out the possibility that young Canadian soldiers, women and men, will not return to this country for celebrations but will stay in the gulf for burial". This statement was made in October and I would seek the hon. member's comments on this stand taken at that time.

**Mr. Allmand:** Madam Speaker, yesterday the Prime Minister made similar statements in his speech. He said that in going to war against Iraq there were risks and that there very likely would be casualties and human lives would be lost.

That statement by the Prime Minister and the statement made by the Secretary of State for External Affairs last October, referred to by my hon. colleague, in my opinion are cold, callous assumptions with respect to this war. Last night I described it as a revisitation of Dr. Strangelove, a new version of Dr. Strangelove. Here we have politicians, diplomats and generals playing with the lives of millions of ordinary men and women who are being sent to war, but they are not risking their lives themselves.

I said in my speech last night that in former days, in medieval times, when kings and princes decided to go to war, they at least led their troops into battle and risked their own lives with the lives of the people that they sent to war. Here we have the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for External Affairs talking about Canadian lives as if they could be dispensed with like that, especially when they have not tried sanctions to the very end when many, many people in the world have said that sanctions will work, will continue to bite and will bite even harder as we move into the spring and the summer. For them to talk about Canadian lives, Canadian boys and girls being sent home in body bags, to me is a cold, calculating and callous approach to this whole matter. It indicates that they are not living in the real world and they are not listening to Canadians.

What they should be doing is still pursuing peaceful means in settling this conflict, and they have not done that. Today our leader asked that they attempt to get the Security Council recalled to deal with the committee that is monitoring sanctions. If the information given by the Secretary of State for External Affairs is true, that information will go before that committee and will be verified.