

Council. I therefore urge my colleague to support the motion.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Questions and comments are now over. On debate, the hon. member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce.

[English]

Hon. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce): Mr. Speaker, the Liberal party, as pointed out by my leader earlier this afternoon, cannot support this Conservative government motion, Motion No. 24, because it asks for a blank cheque to approve subsequent UN resolutions that we have not seen. We cannot do that, Mr. Speaker. It is too open-ended. It is too vague. The government is asking for *carte blanche* and, as I say, a blank cheque to approve subsequent resolutions of the United Nations that we have not had an opportunity to examine and do not know the content of. Consequently, Mr. Speaker, we do not support this motion as it stands and have suggested an amendment. We do support the first part of the resolution which asks that we support the United Nations in its efforts to ensure compliance with Security Council resolution 660. Then it says "and subsequent resolutions".

• (1820)

We are proposing an amendment which would say that we support the efforts of the United Nations to ensure compliance with Security Council resolution 660 and subsequent resolutions until this day because we know what the subsequent resolutions are until this day, but we do not support any resolutions that might be submitted tomorrow or thereafter until we examine them.

Does it mean that we are against the United Nations because we will not support a vague, open-ended resolution as the government submits to us today? No, it does not. We in this party are strong supporters of the United Nations. We are the party of Lester Pearson, a man who won the Nobel Prize for his innovative proposals for peacekeeping at the United Nations. We have long been a supporter of the United Nations and we remain a strong supporter, but we do not accept this proposal put to the House today by the government nor, Mr. Speaker, do we support the draft resolution to be put to the Security Council tomorrow.

Government Orders

I will comment more on that in a minute. Just because that resolution might win support by those governments which are on the Security Council at the present time does not mean that we would necessarily support it. We do not, and I will explain that in a minute.

I want to make very clear to this House and the Canadian public that we voted for the government's resolution, as amended, on October 19. In that resolution we in the Liberal Party joined with other political parties in this House condemning the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq and asking for the immediate withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait. We also approved in that resolution the imposition of economic sanctions against Iraq as a result of that invasion and also the military support of those economic sanctions.

We have so far supported the government in its initiatives except, I might say, the fact that it sent those troops to the Middle East in the first place without the support of Parliament and sent them at the request of the United States and not the United Nations.

After the UN intervened, we have been on side with the government so far in this matter, and with the United Nations.

I say we cannot support this resolution or the draft resolution to be submitted to the United Nations tomorrow. At least we cannot support it in the form in which it was distributed to us today. Let me refer to the key paragraph in that resolution. This is the one to be presented to the Security Council tomorrow. It asks that the Security Council authorize its member states to use all necessary means to uphold and implement Security Council resolution 660 and all subsequent resolutions and to restore international peace and security in the area.

Let us examine that. This resolution does not ask for the authorization for the United Nations to use all necessary means. It asks for authorization for member states to use all necessary means to implement Security Council resolution 660. This means they are asking for the United Nations Security Council to authorize Syria, Egypt, the United States, individually as member states, to use themselves all necessary means to uphold and implement the Security Council resolution 660.