in January of this year. Since September, 1984, 580,000 jobs have been created.

Mr. Gagliano: You don't know how to count.

Mr. Cook: It the Hon. Member opposite would listen to those figures, he would realize that we have to be doing something right.

Since the fall of 1984, great progress has been made in controlling government expenditures and reducing the deficit. This restraint resulted from eliminating or reducing Government programs, improving management procedures and increasing Government efficiency. As well, steps have been taken to increase the efficiency and fairness of the tax system. These changes, combined with some increases in tax rates, will over the medium term contribute to further reducing the deficit.

As a result of these initiatives, the net public debt, which averaged almost 23 per cent per year from 1974 to 1984, will grow by only 17 per cent this year and by less than 10 per cent in 1987-88. Those are the important figures for the public to know, those are the important figures for the public to consider.

TERRORISM—INTERNATIONAL SECURITY MEASURES— CANADA'S POSITION

Mr. Bill Attewell (Don Valley East): Mr. Speaker, on December 2, 1985, I rose in the House to ask a question of the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Clark) on how Canada could bring pressure to bear on countries to tighten security measures and to take other strong steps to eliminate terrorism and hijacking.

My question was prompted by the tragic deaths of 59 people, including two Canadians, Valina Leonard and her infant son, Andrew, during the hijack and subsequent Egyptian commando raid on Egypt Air flight 648 last November 24. The hijacking of this flight was only one of a number of terrorist incidents in 1985.

On December 27, 1985, 19 people were killed and many injured in almost simultaneous attacks on the airports in Rome and Vienna. It was the thirteenth major terrorist attack in the world causing loss of life in 1985. Regrettably, 1985 became a period of resurgence for terrorism—a year of the assasins.

Terrorism also came closer to home for Canadians. On March 12 of last year, Claude Brunelle, a Pinkerton guard at the Turkish Embassy here in Ottawa, was killed, and the Turkish Ambassador, Coskun Kirca, was seriously injured during an attack on and the seizure of the Embassy by three self-proclaimed members of a group called the Armeniam Revolutionary Army. As a result, Pinkerton security guards were replaced with RCMP special constables.

Subsequently, authorities in Toronto and Montreal received calls allegedly from the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of our Homeland, threatening bomb attacks on the transit systems of both cities, unless the three held for the Ottawa

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attack were released. Fortunately there were no bombs. I used the word "allegedly" just a moment ago because no proof exists that the Armenian community was involved in this threat. As a matter of fact, I had two meetings with executives of the Armenian Community Centre in North York, including the President, Levon Hasserjian. They were distressed, to say the least, at these aspersions cast on that great community of hard working, decent Canadians.

• (1810)

On June 23, 1985, Air Indian Flight 182, en route for India from Canada exploded and plunged into the sea off Ireland, killing all 329 people aboard. On the same day, CP Air Flight 003 flew from Vancouver to Tokyo where some passengers were to transfer to an Air India flight for Bombay. Two Japanese luggage handlers were killed when a bomb hidden in luggage exploded.

After the Air India tragedy, the Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. Nielsen) said:

We will not allow this country to become a killing ground for international terrorism.

What has happened in Canada and to Canadians is just one piece in the world mosaic of international terrorism. We have the killings at the Rome and Vienna airports, the hijacking of the Italian liner, Achille Lauro, and the murder of Leon Klinghoffer, the hijacking of TWA Flight 847 to Beirut, assasinations and bombings. There are many instances of terror. Terrorism is a declaration of war against the western world, and it threatens us all. It threatens Canadians on their home ground.

In January, 1986, security measures were increased at the Ottawa International Airport and the Pearson International Airport in Toronto. One of the difficult decisions we face as members of an open society is how to protect ourselves and our society from the threat and violence of terrorism, while still protecting those precious freedoms which we, in our society, guard so carefully.

What can we, as Canadians, do to combat international terrorism? On January 10, 1986, the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) made a statement which I will quote:

Those who murder and maim innocent people, and who bring anarchy to civilized society, should have no sanctuary, no comfort and no indulgence.

On January 30, 1986, Senator Kelly rose in the other place and proposed a special committee to study international terrorism because, as he said:

We do not know enough about the extent to which terrorist groups are locating or have located in Canada, and I think we should know more. I do not think we know enough about the actions Canada can and should take to combat international terrorism.

One group will be taking action this Tuesday, Mr. Speaker, the North American Jewish Students Network Canada. A delegation of students from across the country will come together in Ottawa to take part in a one-day student mobilization effort against terrorism. This day-long event will be the culmination of an intensive nation-wide campaign against terrorism.