

capability to use chemical and biological weapons in war, but the fact that indeed he has used chemical weapons against his own population.

Is it not that we sometimes prefer to forget or not look at human rights records, in this case the human rights records of Saddam Hussein which we have ignored?

The Secretary of State for External Affairs stated that there was a steady flood of conventional arms into the Middle East, and particularly into Iraq. I would say that prior to the particular crisis we address today we as a country were involved in assisting the steady flow of conventional arms into Iraq, despite all the comments made and written by Amnesty International about the horrible human rights abuses perpetrated by Saddam Hussein.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs explained that all peaceful means have been explored and that we have done everything, but we still arrive at where we are today. He said that he hopes sanctions will help to convince Saddam Hussein but, to quote the Secretary of State for External Affairs, "sanctions in and of themselves are not sufficient".

One of the most important questions on the floor today is: What are the criteria by which the Secretary of State for External Affairs can make such a statement? The fact is that despite questions no material has been provided by the government with regard to sanctions.

Twice this week I have put questions to the House asking that the government provide us with information concerning the effectiveness of sanctions, so that we could be involved today in a full and informed debate on what is happening at the United Nations. In response to my question on Monday, the Minister for International Trade stated with respect to the gulf situation generally:

—I am quite sure that the Secretary of State for External Affairs is quite prepared to make available to the House, or to the Standing Committee on External Affairs, the full information on how effective the sanctions policy appears to be.

Yesterday a question was put to the Prime Minister in which I asked him to fulfil the promise made in the House and to table information. The Prime Minister said that he would see what information was available. He also said:

### *Government Orders*

—but I will ask to see what information is available that might be relevant.

Despite persistent calls subsequent to Question Period yesterday, no information whatsoever has been provided to the House to tell us what the government's impressions are and what the experience has been in the application of sanctions and how effective they have been.

The hon. House leader explained that there is international evidence that sanctions are working. In addition to what has been quoted already as material indicating that sanctions are working, it seems to me that it would be important, before decisions are made about Canada's stand tomorrow at the Security Council on the proposed draft UN resolution, to listen to the evidence from our parliamentary delegation which is currently returning from Baghdad. Through telephone conversations with them while they have been in Baghdad, we have statements which suggest from their view that sanctions are having an effect.

Yesterday, in testimony before the Senate armed services committee in the United States, James Schlesinger said that he believed sanctions were having an impact. Also he said: "A year to me seems to be in the right ball park". That was his comment in response to questions from the committee. He went on to say that the economy in Iraq would be in severe difficulty in 10 months' to a year's time, but that it may take somewhat longer for those difficulties to lead Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to change his mind and withdraw from Kuwait.

It is important to understand, no matter what the costs of imposing sanctions by UN resolution at this time, that the cost of maintaining the embargo against Iraq is much less than would ever be the cost of becoming involved in a war in the Middle East.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs went on to say that Canada would participate tomorrow in debate in the Security Council on the draft UN resolution which, in his words, would authorize use of whatever means necessary to remove Saddam Hussein from Kuwait. In support of Canada's supporting this UN resolution, he commented that international order was at stake.

On what basis do we feel or what evidence do we have to guarantee that using force in the Middle East at this