

make no mistake about the importance of the principle we intend to defend: the principle of international order, where international law is respected, and the United Nations is used and works.

Canadians, historically, have been at the cutting edge of the practical measures which have won respect for the United Nations. We helped draft the Charter. Professor John Humphrey, of McGill, was a principal author of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. Lester Pearson guided the ideal of peacekeeping -- against Canadian critics who said it was an inappropriate use of the UN, and 83,000 Canadians wore, and wear today, the blue beret, with pride and with effect, to build peace and to maintain peace.

Now we are at the new step in the evolution of the United Nations -- a time in which, at last, the members of the Security Council of the United Nations are working together on resolutions which involve enough compromise on all sides to allow this diverse world to act together to keep its house in order, and yet, at the same time, are prepared to come together in compromise resolutions clear in their intent and respected in their application. It is hard to think of a time when the United Nations worked better, and we, Canada, want to keep it working, because that is the only way to advance peace and prevent war.

Since the beginning of the crisis, the United Nations has shown that blatant disrespect for international law can be met with a response that is firm in its resolve and unbending in its respect for international order.

For Canada, some of the basic precepts in which our foreign policy is deeply rooted are being challenged by the Gulf crisis, and they just may be vindicated by its resolution and its aftermath. The rule of law and the establishment of a stable international environment have been key objectives of ours since the end of the Second World War.

Throughout the crisis, this Government has kept its key objectives in constant view:

- to make clear the unacceptability of Iraqi behaviour and Canada's determination to play our part in the collective response;
- to reinforce the rule of law in international affairs and to support a renewed United Nations in its first post-Cold War response to a gross violation of its Charter by a member state; and
- of course, to protect Canadian lives and Canadian