

*Government Orders*

Canada and other countries proposed after discussions during the United Nations General Assembly. A deadline which implied an ultimatum could be counterproductive and artificial, and that is not what is proposed. As the Prime Minister said yesterday, what is contemplated is, instead, a pause of goodwill to allow Saddam Hussein one more opportunity to reflect on his options. Naturally, that time must be used by all nations to seek a basis for the peaceful acceptance of Security Council resolutions. But, in particular, it gives Iraq an opportunity to seek a peaceful end to the war it began when it invaded Kuwait.

In passing, Mr. Speaker, I should say, that that proposal for a pause indicates one of the very real fruits and benefits of the new atmosphere within the Security Council, when countries that had not previously worked together were prepared to work together in these circumstances to ensure that there was a basis on which the world could act together.

We certainly hope that Iraq will take this opportunity. If Iraq does so, will the international community in any case insist on the elimination of its leadership or its entire military capacity? No, there is a willingness in the region to live with Iraq, warily to be sure, but on a basis of international law and internationally guaranteed frontiers.

• (1600 )

Does Iraq have legitimate concerns which should be discussed? Perhaps there are some. That is up to the Government of Kuwait to negotiate or for Iraq to pursue in the many international fora which adjudicate exactly such disputes. The possibility of such a negotiating power is contained in Security Council Resolution 660, the very first passed by the Council in responding to this invasion. We urge Saddam Hussein to pursue this option.

Would military action in the gulf be an exercise of only western will? Absolutely not. The coalition includes such partners as Pakistan, Morocco, Czechoslovakia, Argentina, as well of course as Egypt, Syria, Saudi Arabia, the Gulf states and dozens of others.

An Arab force could see to the future defence of Kuwait with international peacekeeping components as

necessary or as desirable. Canada would certainly consider seriously a request to participate in the cause of peace.

Will there be further attempts to resolve existing tensions in the gulf and Middle East regions? Yes. During my discussions in the Middle East the Arab-Israeli dispute was also raised, specifically the Palestinian question. I believe that one of the consequences of the current gulf crisis could be a new sense or urgency about solving other problems facing that troubled region. We have of late witnessed a pattern of successes within the Security Council in addressing regional issues, not just in the Middle East, but also in Cambodia and elsewhere. If that pattern continues, if we do not lose it here, if we can maintain the strength of the United Nations which we have so carefully built over the last years and particularly the last months, if that pattern continues, then a just, lasting and comprehensive solution to the Arab-Israeli dispute, which Canada views as necessary and urgent, may at last be possible. This is a matter that can only be addressed, however, separately from the current crisis.

Iraq's offence is *sui generis* and its undoing, according to the highest principles of international law and the highest interests of international security, is essential. But resolution of all territorial disputes in the region on a just and equitable basis is urgently required, if peace and security are to apply in a durable way in a region which may be the most volatile in our world.

We will also have to turn our collective attention to the need for arms control measures which deal with weapons of mass destruction that threaten the whole region. Sustaining the new unity of the international community is the only hope, the best hope, that these problems can be resolved with speed.

There may be the elements of a peaceful resolution of this crisis. I was more encouraged than I thought I might be by the conversations I had in the Middle East. I was encouraged by the determination of people ranging from Israeli leaders, to King Hussein, to the Palestinians to look for ways in which this experience may lead to constructive responses to other issues. So we hope that there will be means found to resolve this crisis.