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the granting of this emergency debate and in the debate itself, and particularly in the unanimous resolution adopted by the House, is the unanimous outrage that Canadians feel about the events in China.

I think the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Clark) put it well, though, when he said that it should be clear to all who may be listening, both here in Canada and abroad, that what we are talking about here is an unequivocal condemnation of the actions of a particular Government in a particular time and place in the history of China. We are not talking about the Chinese people themselves. We begin this debate with a tremendous respect for the history of China as a civilization and for the Chinese people themselves.

We begin, I dare say, with a respect for the Chinese Revolution, something which many people have studied over the years and have recognized as not only a great struggle, but a struggle that has resulted in many achievements for the Chinese people. Many people have looked with awe at the ability of a country with so large a population to feed and provide for itself in a way that has been the envy of many other countries of the world. That is why what has happened this last weekend is a political as well as a human tragedy, that a revolution which begins with the long march and with so much struggle and passion for social justice should come to a point where the People's Liberation Army is firing on the people themselves.

I think a great many Canadians are saddened not only by the loss of life but by the tremendous and painful irony that that must be for all who have watched the struggle for justice in China and which has its antecedence in the Revolution and in the overthrow of the Nationalist Chinese regime, a regime noted for its brutality.

I also want to say that I wish the House had more of these kinds of opportunities to express our unanimous condemnation of gross violations of human rights. As someone else said earlier, we know that tragedies of this proportion sometimes happen without the world taking any notice at all, or taking very little notice. I am reminded of the genocide which has happened against

the people of East Timor, or the chemical warfare which the Iraqis used on their own people in Kurdistan, or the actions of the Chinese Government not so long ago in Tibet. The list goes on and on of events which do not receive the kind of attention that this event has.

We are glad that this event has received that kind of attention, but I think we also have a responsibility to say that there are many more occasions on which the House of Commons could unite to condemn human rights violations. Perhaps we should see this as a precedent setting move for further parliamentary action in the future, should such occasions arise. We, of course, hope they do not.

I would like to go over some of the things that have been suggested in terms of a Canadian response, things which the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Clark) has covered. I would like to just speak for the record as to how we, in the New Democratic Party, view some of the areas which we have to concern ourselves with as a result of the tragic events in Beijing.

It has been suggested that Canada—and my Leader raised this in the Question Period earlier today—call for a debate in the Security Council. It was also suggested earlier that a self-understanding of the United Nations may well prevent the kind of full debate that one would like to see in the United Nations.

I am told that the Security Council's mandate has to do with conflicts between nations rather than within nations. If that is the case, as I believe it is, in many respects that is a very serious limitation. It is a limitation reflected in the statement by the Secretary General today. It is only a paragraph long. It says that this is essentially a matter within the domestic jurisdiction of a state, and he urges utmost restraint. It seems to me that more should both be required and permitted within the context of the United Nations than now seems possible.

I urge the Canadian Government to explore every opportunity, as it said it will, to see how the moral suasive powers—I think that is the way the Minister put it—can be used to put pressure on China in this instance to make sure, first of all, that the killing does stop and, second, that the road to democratization which China