

*Adjournment Debate*

as to the terror and violence. In the interests of fuller information on behalf of the CBC audiences, I believe the serious, carefully documented charge of Ms. McDuff should be fully investigated.

**Mr. Gustave Blouin (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State):** Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for Hillsborough (Mr. Macquarrie) for his kind words. As usual, the hon. member has a way of getting to the bottom of things. The office of the Secretary of State obtained the following information from the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation: The CBC utterly rejects the accusation of bias in its coverage and reportage of events in the Middle East. It is always possible to take something out of the context of programming and show it as favouring one side or the other.

The CBC has received formal visits from delegations of Jewish organizations strongly complaining about CBC programming being anti-Israel. It has also received formal visits from delegations of Arab organizations strongly complaining about CBC programming being anti-Arab. The corporation, Mr. Speaker, is always fully prepared to have meetings of that kind and to listen to expressions of concern about coverage and reporting of the Middle East situation.

In this coverage the CBC yields neither to Arab nor Israeli pressures but yields only to what is fair and balanced. To do otherwise is a distortion of the CBC's fundamental responsibility of providing information to Canadians. Any divergence from this approach would be instantly corrected. In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, it should be noted that the American network and the BBC did not carry the Arafat speech live.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10:27 p.m.