

Adjournment Debate

Democratic Party. I can inform the Hon. Member that first of all, our gross expenditures on research and development have increased by an annual 4.1 percent in 1985-1986 and an estimated 4 percent in 1986-1987. At a time when the pressure on both corporate and government budgets is tremendous, these figures demonstrate the emphasis placed by government and the private sector on research and development as instruments of economic growth.

Granted, gross domestic spending on research and development as a percentage of GNP went down in 1986. However, the actual figure is not important, statistically speaking. What is important is that economic growth has been enhanced by our policies, and that the Government has managed to rein in inflation, lower interest rates, reduce the massive deficit we inherited from our predecessors and increase spending on research and development. To me this proves that our emphasis on research and development as instruments of economic growth is justified.

I may remind the Hon. Member that gross domestic expenditures on research and development as a percentage of GNP are merely statistics and should be interpreted only as performance indicators. We cannot use these performance indicators to compare directly our R and D performance with other OECD countries. No other OECD member, except perhaps Australia, has a combination of primary and secondary industries similar to ours, with a substantial percentage of its industrial capacity belonging to foreign interests and a relatively low commitment to military research and development.

Nevertheless, we do engage in world-class research. By restructuring and concentrating our resources, we will make it possible for our researchers to emulate the achievements of Dr. Polanyi, Bell Northern, Mitel and all those who helped to develop the Canadarm. We have a national science and technology policy that has been accepted by all the provinces, a carefully selected group of science and technology advisers and a national advisory council on science and technology. We also have a space program and a micro-electronics program under which \$90 million is available to participating industries. We supported the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research.

Finally, we launched InnovAction, a program that will help all Canadians realize the importance of science and technology in their lives. As the Economic Council of Canada stated in its report "Making Technology Work", published last June, all Canadians must openly embrace the new technologies and realize there is no alternative. Our Government has made science and technology its priority and will continue to do so.

[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS—EL SALVADOR—DISCOVERY OF HEADLESS
BODY OF AGRICULTURAL WORKERS'
REPRESENTATIVE/CANADIAN AID TO EL SALVADOR

Mr. Dan Heap (Spadina): Madam Speaker, on May 29 I asked the Hon. Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr.

Clark) a question regarding El Salvador. In part, my question was, "Will the Minister indicate to the President—" that is, of El Salvador, "that Canada's decision to extend that aid was based on an expectation that the President would be willing and able to control human rights violations of this sort—" and I was referring to the recent murder of another trade union leader by the death squads in El Salvador, "—and that the continuation of the aid is conditional on progress in that matter?"

• (1810)

The Minister said:

I do not want to make any general comment that might make that delicate situation more difficult. However, I will certainly look into the information which the Member has provided and will take whatever action is appropriate.

The Minister made no protest to the Government of El Salvador about its continuing murders of trade unionists, which is what I had asked in my first question. He gave me no answer as he promised to my second question after he looked into it. The only action he took was to signal earlier this year the renewal in the next phase of bilateral aid to the Duarte Government.

We have in a story in *The Globe and Mail* the description of the futility of aid controlled by a Government which is itself controlled by a murderous or Fascist army. An article in the October 27 edition of *The Globe and Mail* written on the murder of Herbert Anaya, the President of the Salvadoran Human Rights Commission, in front of his family as he prepared to take two of his six children to school, reads in part:

The killing appears to be part of a recent increase in death-squad murders and disappearances apparently linked, analysts say, to the rise in anti-Government and anti-army protests.

It refers to the gruesome amnesty offered by the Government to those killers, that is, the death squad murderers. Also, referring to the amnesty, it indicates:

It pardons all political crimes, including more than 50,000 political killings during the past seven years. Most of those were clearly committed by death squads linked to the military and security forces.

The Minister was quite mistaken to declare El Salvador democratic in any sense when it is controlled by such a Fascist army, when the army even ignores the cease-fire order of the President of El Salvador. They laugh at him.

He was equally mistaken to give aid to the Duarte Government. The Minister claims that he gives aid not to the Government but to poor people, but that is not true. The Duarte Government controls the distribution of Canadian aid money through the Minister of Planning. This was told to me by the Vice-Minister of Planning who explained that the list should be vetted ahead of time before it is shown to the Minister, so that there might be no embarrassment of a name on there that the Minister might not wish to see.

What we have is what *The Globe and Mail* aptly calls "dirty wars" in El Salvador and "dirty wars", in Guatemala. For example, its October 28 editorial reads: