

Any Iraqi or stolen Kuwait aircraft found in Canadian airports will be detained. Canada pressed successfully in the International Civil Aviation Organization for effective measures to ensure that other countries act in a similar way.

Effective enforcement measures are being taken by Canadian enforcement agencies including the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and Revenue Canada Customs and Excise. Close international co-operation is being maintained. To date, no violations in Canada have been reported and no prosecutions are pending.

As I mentioned earlier, Canadian ships and personnel enforced the naval embargo. In the company of others, we are reporting on these activities to the Security Council and can, again, make copies of our report available to the Committee.

The question that has been repeatedly asked is: "Why don't we simply wait until sanctions force Saddam Hussein to withdraw?"

That question involves two assumptions: first, that sanctions will ultimately work; and second, that time is neutral, and that nothing else will happen while we wait.

Time is not neutral, and not cost-free. Consider just four factors:

First, every day the sacking of Kuwait continues -- a deliberate campaign to obliterate the records and the reality of a sovereign nation, a member of the United Nations. Two-thirds of the Kuwait people have already been forced to flee. Many others have been killed. Those who remain -- and the great majority are not wealthy, not privileged -- watch the relentless looting of their land, and suffer appalling human rights violations every day peace is delayed.

Second, time is not neutral for the people of Iraq. As honourable members pointed out in the debate last week, Saddam Hussein is not noted for his compassion towards his own people. Wherever possible he will direct the consequences of sanctions against those who are weakest and least vital to the machinery of war and state. Canada pressed for the provisions in UN Resolution 666 that allow for the supplies of food and medicines by appropriate international organizations such as the International Red Cross. Saddam Hussein has not agreed to such assistance and as I said in the House, the human cost of sanctions will inevitably rise as the weeks and months pass.

Third, the economic impact of uncertainty, at high oil prices, is costly everywhere including in Eastern and Central Europe where it threatens basic economic reform. But its impact