

The fight against terrorism around the world requires the concerted efforts of the democracies. Such a co-operative effort has yet to take place. While Canada has taken a strong position against terrorism, the problem is so widespread that it requires the combined efforts of many governments.

One area in which Canada has not been as assertive as it should, has been in its dealings with the P.L.O. In spite of the P.L.O.'s continuing record of violence, most Western countries cling to the notion that this group holds the key to peace in the Middle East. Time and again Yasser Arafat and his terrorists have been directly linked to violent acts. The Achille Lauro incident is the most recent example, but one should not forget that the infamous Black September massacres were also under the direction of Yasser Arafat, as proven by documents seized in Lebanon in 1982. The P.L.O., in spite of doing everything it possibly can to block serious negotiations, in spite of its thirst for violence, in spite of its record, does not seem to lose permanent favour.

Canada would not think of maintaining contact with an organization such as the I.R.A., yet there is no essential difference between it and the P.L.O. Both of these groups are dedicated to the destruction of a legitimate government. There is no such thing as a moderate terrorist organization. When it comes to terrorism one should not engage in semantics. While the