

a human barricade against the oncoming tanks. Soldiers then opened fire against these unarmed civilians killing scores and injuring many others.

A second wave of people stepped over their fallen comrades to act as a second barrier against the armoured column. To everyone's horror they, too, were mowed down. News reports from Beijing indicated that many were killed or crushed by the tanks. Others reported that indiscriminate shooting by soldiers killed many innocent bystanders.

Through any examination of the facts the truth is undeniable. The political leadership of China must be held accountable for the crime it has committed.

As one of my Party's spokespersons for multiculturalism, along with my colleague the Hon. Member for Broadview—Greenwood (Mr. Mills), I am particularly concerned for the Chinese population here in Canada. The shock to many Canadians who still have family and friends in Beijing must be enormous. I hope the federal Government will co-operate to the fullest of its ability to alleviate any undue anxieties these people may feel. I also hope that the federal Government assists these people through whatever means possible to send necessary aid to their people in China who desperately need our support in their struggle for democracy and freedom at this time.

I am also concerned with respect to how events in China will affect Canada's refugee system. It is highly likely that the events of the past weekend will create a new tide of immigrants from Hong Kong who are ever more fearful of the colony's reunification with the mainland, as well as from the mainland as prospects for political reform grow fainter.

I hope that the federal Government treats these anticipated cases with great care and compassion. Canada should open its doors to those refugees from the turmoil in China who will obviously be affected as a result of their involvement in the student demonstrations.

[*Translation*]

The Canadian Government must consider the options open to it. As a country that cherishes the sacredness of

human life, as well as the basic rights of freedom, we must make known our anger very clearly. The Canadian Government must first recall its representative to the People's Republic of China as a sign of disapproval. It should also consider the possibility of economic sanctions to express the horror felt by Canadians.

Mr. Speaker, Canada should use the opportunity provided by its seat on the United Nations Security Council to gain the support of other states for unanimous condemnation of the reprehensible acts of the Chinese Government. It is high time that this Government used Canada's good reputation as an involved country and passed a firm resolution on this subject.

[*English*]

China is an ancient land that has in its history endured much hardship and oppression. The events of the past weekend demonstrate that this unfortunate trend will continue and, according to some reports, expand to other cities.

I hope that the Government of the People's Republic of China reconsiders its decision to crush the peaceful demonstration. Until the time when this wrong can be corrected, I hope that the Canadian Government and the global community take the strongest measures possible to condemn this horrible act.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Jim Edwards (Edmonton Southwest): Mr. Speaker, just when we thought the world had taken a small tentative step out of Churchill's broad sunlit uplands, hope has turned to heartbreak, exultation to dejection.

How did it happen? What happens now? What should Canada do? What should Canadians and China do?

When I heard the news that the tanks had moved into Tiananmen Square I was in Drumheller to get a progress report on the Canada-China dinosaur project, a joint venture of our two countries that has as its objective a travelling exhibition which will, if all goes well, attract some 12 million visitors in the great cities of the world and show the palaeontological resources of our two countries which have yet that one other item in common.

A visiting palaeontologist who was in the Drumheller region on the weekend from the People's Republic of