

Iran by the constitution, also gave rise to questions in the Commons. Liberal members Bob Kaplan and Sheila Finestone urged the Government to speak out at the United Nations condemning the atrocities being committed against the Bahai.¹¹

Reference was also made to the increase in religious and ethnic violence in the Indian sub continent¹² and to the increase in human rights violations in El Salvador.¹³ New Democrat Dan Heap asked the Government to stop giving \$8 million in aid to El Salvador.

Finally Canada's aid to Indonesia was questioned because of reported massacres in East Timor. Liberal member Roland de Corneille asked: "How can the Government continue to ignore the fact that Indonesia has invaded East Timor with 40,000 troops and is conducting 'Operation Extinction' which is tantamount to genocide."¹⁴

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Joe Clark, replied:

...the Canadian ambassador in Indonesia was invited to visit East Timor to see conditions for himself. He believes the arguments which have been made by various groups are exaggerated."¹⁵

In reply to a question from NDP member Pauline Jewett concerning Canadian arms exports to Indonesia, Mr. Clark added:..."I am satisfied that there are not massive violations of human rights."¹⁶

¹¹ Commons Debates, 6 Nov. 1986, p. 1134; and 21 Nov., p. 1395; 9 Dec. 1986, pp. 1134, 1395, 1919.

¹² Commons Debates, 15 Dec. 1986, p. 2101.

¹³ Commons Debates, 3 Dec. 1986, p. 1731.

¹⁴ Commons Debates, 17 Feb. 1987, pp. 352-3. See also: 4 Mar., p. 3806; 7 Apr. 1987, p. 4958.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Ibid.