

Government Orders

opportunity to congratulate Secretary General Gorbachev of the Soviet Union for winning the Nobel Peace Prize. A new breath of air has come into the United Nations as a result of the co-operation between the Soviet Union and the United States. Hopefully, both countries will be willing to act through that international body rather than unilaterally on their own or even together as superpowers.

Once this incident passes, we have to use this opportunity and experience to effectively strengthen the capacity of UN peacekeeping and peacemaking forces so that the United Nations will be able to handle these situations quickly and effectively, without nations being tempted to resort to unilateral action.

I have examined all of the plans that have been put forward to bring peace to that region. It appears to me that the one put forward by President Mitterrand of France is probably the best. President Mitterrand has suggested that if Iraq withdraws unconditionally from Kuwait and releases the hostages, there should be an international peacekeeping conference to consider all the conflicts and problems in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question. Whether we like it or not, it is linked to this particular conflict. I say whether we like it not because, while in the first case it may appear that it is not linked, it is linked in the minds of the nations in the Middle East. If we are going to have peace in the area, we have to deal with the Palestinian question and their right to have a state of their own. As has been stated in this House on several occasions, Canada has long supported UN resolutions, which go a long way back to secure the boundaries of Israel originally agreed upon but at the same time provide for a Palestinian state in the West Bank and in the Gaza. Mr. Speaker, there will never be peace in that area unless that is done.

Mr. Speaker, I see you are motioning to me that my time is coming to an end. In conclusion, I simply want to say that our bottom line in this particular case is that we can never accept unilateral military action. The best response has to be common security action through the United Nations. I hope that we in the House will be able to agree upon a resolution as a result of this incident. I understand that such a resolution is in the process, a resolution which will make those principles absolutely clear.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Before we have questions and comments, there is a point of order by the hon. Parliamentary Secretary to the Government House Leader.

Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, there have been discussions and you will find unanimous consent for the following motion:

That, in relation to the government motion respecting the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq, Motion No. 16:

Debate on such motion and on any amendment or subamendment thereto be the only government order to be called today following the adoption of this motion; and, that such debate continue following Private Member's Hour and adjournment proceedings today until no member rises in debate, but in any case no later than 1 a.m., at which time a deferred recorded division on such motion and on any amendment and subamendment thereto shall be deemed to have been requested and ordered to take place at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, October 23, 1990, following which ordering on Thursday, October 18, 1990 the House shall adjourn; and, that following the adoption of this motion and until the House adjourns today, dilatory motions and quorum calls shall not be receivable.

Mr. Dingwall: Yes, Mr. Speaker, there has been discussion among representatives of the parties of the House and our party would consent to that motion as read by the parliamentary secretary.

Mr. Axworthy (Saskatoon—Clark's Crossing): Yes, Mr. Speaker, on our behalf, too, there have been discussions and this meets with our approval.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I have a little problem with that. I do not think you can have the adjournment debate from 6 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. I think we will have to delete that portion of the motion, if it is agreeable to the House. A point of order, the hon. member for Burnaby—Kingsway.

Mr. Robinson: I understand that normally the adjournment proceedings would take place following the extension, but this was discussed among the parties and I believe that there is agreement that by consent of the House we would in fact proceed with the adjournment proceeding as scheduled at 6 p.m. and then resume the debate. My understanding is that by unanimous consent that can be agreed to.

Mr. Cooper: Mr. Speaker, I can signify that was discussed and agreed. The motion as read was the one that we agreed to.