

administration, until we have the legislation that we could have had nearly a year ago.

\* \* \*

[*Translation*]

#### PRESENCE IN GALLERY

**Mr. Speaker:** I would like to draw the attention of the House to the presence in our gallery—

[*English*]

—the longest serving member of Her Majesty's Canadian Privy Council, the Hon. Paul Martin, Sr.

**Some hon. members:** Hear, hear.

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#### POINT OF ORDER

##### WITHDRAWAL OF GOVERNMENT ORDER NO. 16 AND ALL RELEVANT AMENDMENTS

**Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby—Kingsway):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order, pursuant to the discussions which took place in the House yesterday and on Friday of last week, concerning the government motion which is to be voted upon this afternoon. In the course of substitution on Friday last of the motion which is now before the House for the earlier motion, through a procedural irregularity, unfortunately, the amendment and the subamendment are not before the House.

As I indicated yesterday, I have discussed this matter with representatives of both the government and the Official Opposition.

[*Translation*]

I also spoke to the hon. member for Shefford.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker, I would hope that there might be agreement to allow the question to be put, without debate, this evening at six o'clock on the amendment which we had originally sought to place before the House to the original government motion. That amendment would read as follows:

That this House censure the government for not recalling Parliament at the earliest opportunity to fulfil its legitimate function of consultation and debate, as to what role Canada should play in the resolution of the present crisis.

#### *Point of Order*

That Canada work at the UN Security Council to seek assurances that no country will undertake offensive military operations against Iraq, unless they are under UN command and explicitly authorized by the Security Council;

That this House accept the undertaking of the government to present a further resolution to this House in the event of the outbreak of hostilities involving Canadian forces in and around the Arabian Peninsula.

This motion, as its predecessor, would also be referred to the Standing Committee on External Affairs and International Trade.

The effect of allowing this motion to be put would be very straightforward. It will allow us to vote on the subamendment that we had originally proposed to this House and originally sought to vote on before the decision that was made by unanimous consent of this House on Friday last.

I would hope that there might be agreement to allow the vote to take place on this subamendment. I understand that there is to be a meeting of House leaders this afternoon. If it is not possible to arrive at an agreement at this point, I understand there is a discussion of the House leaders and it might be further discussed there. I hope we might agree that the House would be allowed to vote on this subamendment which was originally before the House and in fact was the subject of debate during the entire course of debate on this very important issue.

**Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Winnipeg South Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak to the matter raised by the hon. member for Burnaby—Kingsway concerning a request for consent on what I consider to be a very important matter.

This is not the normal business of this House. We are dealing with issues that affect, in basic terms, life and death and war and peace. It is not often that we have occasion to come together and make this kind of judgment and choice. We have had a serious debate in this House on this matter.

It was of some real concern to our caucus and our own party that we wanted to indicate a clear will on behalf of Canadian people concerning the invasion of Kuwait by Iraqi forces and to ensure that we clearly stand for the international response that has been mounted. We are attempting to find an agreement and to co-operate in doing that. Many members on this side of the House stated their position that we were prepared to do that.