

On April 16 Mr. Turner put the following questions to the Government:

Did the Prime Minister speak directly to the President of the United States on the subject of Libya? Did he ask for evidence to justify the action taken by the U.S.? What kind of answer did he get? Did he suggest any alternatives for other options?¹⁶

Mr. Turner also asked the Deputy Prime Minister if he did not

consider it hypocritical on the part of the Canadian Government to condemn terrorism at one of its sources in Libya, yet allow Canadians to work in that country as technical experts to help the economy which funds that terrorism?

On the same day Mr. Broadbent asked if the Government would "urge the two superpowers to use their influence, given their strong agreement in the Middle East, to deal with the root of tension in that area?" Finally, Warren Allmand of the Liberal Party questioned the coherence of the Government's position. "Last night", he noted,

the Deputy Prime Minister said that the United States had no alternative but to take the action it took the day before, whereas the Prime Minister, in a statement he made yesterday morning, urged negotiated settlements. Would the Deputy Prime Minister tell us which is the official position of the Canadian Government...?¹⁷

On 17 April Mr. Johnston asked the Government if it would impose full economic sanctions against Libya, while William Rompkey of the Liberal Party queried the Government on its contingency plans for the evacuation of Canadians from Libya.¹⁸ The call for sanctions was repeated by Mr. Gray in the House on the next day.¹⁹ During the following days further questions were raised about the safety of Canadians in Libya.²⁰

¹⁶ Commons Debates, 16 April 1986, pp.12302-12303.

¹⁷ Commons Debates, 16 April 1986, pp.12304-12305.

¹⁸ Commons Debates, 17 April 1986, p.12365.

¹⁹ Commons Debates, 18 April 1986, p.12409.

²⁰ Commons Debates, 22 April 1986, p.12350, 24 April 1986, p.12607.