

S. O. 29

Fourth, Canada will take, as it has taken, fitting action against states which support international terrorism.

Fifth, Canada will co-operate in developing consistent and effective measures to improve civilian aviation security and to ensure that there is effective international action in the resolution of crimes committed by terrorists.

These principles have already found their voice in the international economic community. I believe that this voice will grow in strength. I also believe that our country's great strengths derive from the resilience and tolerance of its peoples and from the freedoms we possess. We can build on these strengths in the conviction that we can achieve a safer and better world.

**Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan—Malahat—The Islands):** Mr. Speaker, I welcome the opportunity to make a few remarks in the debate this evening. I want to begin by quoting some words from the Prime Minister, as reported at page 9722 of *Hansard* on January 13, when he was introducing Prime Minister Nakasone from Japan. He said:

There is a new, insidious threat to stability in the world, the murderous scourge of terrorism, an international plague that knows and respects no boundaries, from which no person is safe, and to which democracies such as Canada and Japan, to name but two, are most vulnerable. Japan and Canada were linked in the horror of terrorism last year when a bomb exploded among the luggage of a Canadian commercial flight after its arrival in Tokyo. Our people have a right to expect their Governments to take forceful action to rid the world of these cowardly creatures who do not recognize the bounds of decency or the dictates of reason.

As it happens, Prime Minister, we, as leaders, are not powerless to do something about this. We can encourage support for more effective enforcement of international law, as you have done on many occasions. Under your leadership at the summit the partners may yet contemplate effective, co-ordinated action against terrorists of every origin and terrorism in every form.

These were the comments of our Prime Minister when he was welcoming Prime Minister Nakasone. We are not powerless when it comes to dealing with international terrorism. We can work through international law.

Unfortunately, the American bombing of the cities of Tripoli and Benghazi in Libya last night has to be seen as a confession of powerlessness, a confession of weakness when the mightiest nation on the face of the earth had to resort to a kind of naked force to deal with a question of terrorism in a way that is not at all effective. It has been pointed out several times already this evening that this is a breach of international law. The Americans talked about a so-called surgical strike. How can we talk about a surgical strike when 100 civilians were killed, when innocent babies are killed? What kind of surgery is this? It is surgery with a meat axe.

● (2230)

The Deputy Secretary of State for the United States, John Whitehead, said that the United States planned to avoid casualties. He even made the bizarre suggestion that perhaps the casualties which took place were as a result of misdirected anti-aircraft fire. That kind of self excuse just does not make

sense when we are faced with the enormity of what happened last night.

The Americans are pleading self-defence as the reason for this strike. I would like to suggest that instead of a plea of self-defence, perhaps a plea of temporary insanity might make more sense. What happened last night does not make sense to any sane or rational person who looks at our world.

I would like to suggest five reasons why I think we have to oppose what the Americans did last night. First, it increases world tension. We have already seen the results of that in the cancellation of the planning meeting which was to have led up to the United States-U.S.S.R. Summit. We have great hopes that somehow when the leaders of the superpowers sit down together they will be able to reach some kind of understanding with each other, some kind of resolution of world tensions. These summit meetings are very important. The fact that the planning meeting has been cancelled is something that has to be regretted very seriously.

In addition to that, the tension has been increased in the Arab world. In fact, the effect of last night's bombing has been to solidify the Arab world in support of the extremists. It has solidified the Arab world behind Colonel Khadafy and instead of rooting out terrorism, it has made a hero of him among his fellow countrymen and other Arab nations.

Second, we oppose this action because innocent civilians were killed. I know we feel very strongly when innocent civilians are killed by terrorist actions, for example the commercial air flight, the bombing of the discotheque and other terrorist actions which have taken place. However, two wrongs do not make a right. The bombing of civilian areas of Tripoli and the killing of upwards of 100 civilians is not something that can be condoned. Certainly we have to oppose this action because it is not at all effective in dealing with terrorism. As I have already pointed out, it has unified the Arab world in support of Khadafy and Libya. It has marginalized people who were moderates. People who wanted to speak up in the Arab world for a more moderate position have been pushed off to one side by the American action. This American action has been very counterproductive in terms of the long-term objectives which the Americans themselves should be seeking.

By the same token, if, as President Reagan says, Colonel Khadafy is a mad dog, we can be very sure that this kind of action is not going to have any effect on him at all. We do not try to solve the problems of a mad dog by giving it a kick. That in effect is not going to help the question of international terrorism. In fact, it will exacerbate it. Fourth, we have to be very concerned about this action because of the fact that some 1,300 Canadian lives are involved. We heard from the Government that it has no real plans on how to deal with the situation if a real crisis should erupt which involves those lives.

Finally, I think we have to recognize that the United States does not come to this situation with clean hands. The Americans do not have clean hands when it comes to international