

*Oral Questions*

This government did not allow for the exercise of Pearsonian diplomacy. Article 42 of the UN charter clearly states that should the Security Council of the United Nations consider that sanctions have proved to be inadequate, it may take other actions, which are possibly about to occur. Our own government has not offered any proof that sanctions have not worked.

A Harvard University test model on sanctions policies has shown that the likelihood of eventual success from imposing sanctions on Iraq, especially with the current physical enforcement of them by many nations, the 48 per cent of Iraq's Gross National Product would be lost, resulting in an over 85 per cent success rate for the sanctions policy.

The Prime Minister says that war is now our moral duty. What Mr. Pearson actually meant is that our true moral duty is to ensure all avenues contributing toward the de-escalation of tensions are given our utmost support. Give peace a chance.

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**PERSIAN GULF CRISIS**

**Mr. Ken James (Sarnia—Lambton):** Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak to the issue that challenges the world as we know it, the Persian Gulf crisis. It challenges each and every one of us as parliamentarians.

On a global basis the crisis challenges the new international order which we have been so actively attempting to build following the end of the cold war. Also, it fundamentally challenges the role of the United Nations as a key guarantor of that order.

As parliamentarians, the crisis challenges us to go beyond partisan politics. It also challenges us to respect the views and emotions on all sides of this issue. None of us can be said to have all the information and all the answers. Yet, based on what we feel is informative and accurate, we must in the end formulate our opinions and stances.

Irrespective of where we stand, I know that each and every one of us prefers a peaceful resolution of this crisis. Indeed, I personally remain hopeful that peace can still be achieved, and I pray that it will happen.

I would like to take this opportunity to call upon the world leaders to continue their diplomacy and efforts toward a peaceful resolution. No avenues or opportunities can be left unturned.

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[Translation]

**PERSIAN GULF CRISIS**

**Mr. Guy H. Arseneault (Restigouche—Chaleur):** Mr. Speaker, since last August, events in the Persian Gulf have slowly but surely edged towards the fateful deadline of January 15.

The deadline has passed. The government claims that diplomacy has failed, and there is a real possibility that the conflict in the Persian Gulf will turn into a genuine conflagration.

[English]

In fact, a war will have catastrophic consequences for the inhabitants of the Persian Gulf region and unimaginable repercussions for international peace and world security.

Has the government considered the human cost of our involvement in such a war? Furthermore, what social programs will be cut to finance Canada's involvement?

The government has failed to provide the leadership which Canadians have come to expect. Instead, it has chosen to follow blindly the Americans into the heart of a conflict, which outcome no one can predict.

Peace and sanctions must be given a chance to work.

**ORAL QUESTION PERIOD**

[English]

**PERSIAN GULF CRISIS**

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister.

Yesterday in his speech the Prime Minister referred many times to Lester B. Pearson. Well, Mr. Speaker, I knew Mr. Pearson and I think that if he were Prime Minister today he would be working for a peaceful solution to this crisis.