

S.O. 30

pilot wanted to save fuel and decided on a shorter route? Maybe there was a hijacking? One may bet on anything, Mr. Speaker. But like anyone else, I ask myself this question: How is it possible to murder as was said in so many words, 269 innocent passengers in such circumstances?

[English]

Robbie Burns, I think it was, used the expression "Man's inhumanity to man." It is absolutely impossible for any Canadian to imagine something like this happening in the way it did.

My colleague from York-Peel read out the names of the Canadian victims. Let me also put them on the record. Mari-lou Covey, Brother Jean-Paul Gregoire, Mary Jane Hendrie, Francois Robert de Massy, Georgis Panagopoulos, Francois Robert, Larry Patrick Sayers, Mrs. Chun Lan Yeh, Mao San Lim, and Mrs. Chi Man Leung. Let me read what Miss Hendrie's father said:

[Translation]

He said in French, and I quote:

This is murder. For my wife and myself, the most precious person in the world has been murdered.

[English]

Georgis Panagopoulos is remembered by his fiancée, Maryze Jimenez.

[Translation]

—Maryze Jimenez, 19, from Toronto, and I quote:

I do not know what to think.

And I add, and this is not a quote, Miss Jimenez, reservation manager at the Hotel in Toronto, was to join her fiancé soon after his arrival in Korea. They planned on getting married.

● (2200)

[English]

It is my understanding that the brothers and family of Larry Patrick Sayers are desperately anxious that his identification and other materials be returned. Hopefully his body will also be returned to them for proper burial in Canada. I have also been informed personally that his family is anxious that everything possible be done to ensure that such a tragedy never occurs again.

I would like to single out one victim, Mary Jane Hendrie—and I am sure that this could be done for any of the victims—and add a bit to what has already been said about her. I think she was an absolutely extraordinary person. It may give us all a better sense of what happened to refer to one person. She was the eldest of five children. Her two grandmothers have both come to Canada from Dundee, Scotland, to be with the family. She obtained her B.A. Honours degree with distinction from the University of Toronto. She spent a year in Tokyo University in foreign studies. She spoke the Japanese language fluently. She looked hard for a job and found one with an international investment firm. She was on her way to that job when this incident happened. She had won many honours. She received a Sir James Dunn high school scholarship. She had

been on a Rotary exchange. She was an expert in synchronized swimming. She ran the fastest mile at the city track meet. The human dimensions of this have hit all of us very strongly.

I would like to quote Marcel Adam of *La Presse* who put it as well as anyone could in a recent article headed:

[Translation]

The USSR reveals the true nature of its regime

After having brazenly lied about the circumstances surrounding the incident, the USSR, confronted with the overwhelming evidence brought before the United Nations, have finally admitted to having committed that infamous act with which they were charged, but without the least remorse, without the least intention to compensate in any way for the consequences of this mindless crime against humanity.

[English]

Another French editorial appeared in *La Presse* which I think expressed the feelings of many of us very well. I refer to the article of September 2. It reads:

[Translation]

Governments and nations that still enjoy the freedom to be indignant already condemn and will go on condemning such a vicious attack against a Korean commercial aircraft by a Soviet fighter North of Japan. But in the face of such a brutal and senseless act that has sent to their deaths 269 powerless and unarmed persons, indignation is not enough. What is still needed, as was firmly pointed out yesterday by Ottawa and Washington, is that Moscow provide the world with the necessary explanations.

[English]

The Hon. Member for York-Peel (Mr. Stevens) made the point very well that we are living in a shrinking world and that we know, each one of us, that the dialogue between the free world and the Soviet Union should be increasing, not decreasing. There are many issues which are vital to the maintenance of a fragile world peace. I do not think anyone in this nation would want to jeopardize that fragile peace. On the other hand, we all abhor and condemn the shooting down of Korean Airlines flight 007. All of us feel that the tragedy was compounded by the continuing refusal of the Soviet Government to accept any fault by its indication that it would do the same thing again in similar circumstances.

Would a peace seeking government characterize this act other than as having been a grave error? Would a peace seeking government not have apologized and offered to provide compensation to the victims' families? This brings me to my final point. What do we do now? What further firm but prudent step should Canada take now? I submit that a reasonable step in the circumstances, assuming the Soviet Union does not accept any fault in this matter, is to close down for an unstated period of time all Soviet flights coming to or going from Gander airport.

I obtained some data from the Department of Transport today which might be of interest to Hon. Members. In fairness I must point out that the Hon. Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. MacEachen) was in error when he said on September 7 in a press release: