

Government Orders

would agree to the protection of a sovereign state against any invasion.

I do not think that is a possibility at the present time because I doubt if the Iraqi forces could overwhelm the multinational forces that are in Saudi Arabia and that area, especially with the very powerful American forces supported by other countries which are there. So, there are those two options that could be acceptable under UN auspices; that is to enforce the sanctions and to protect Saudi Arabia against any attack.

However, there are two other options which are being discussed in the councils of the world and by governments of the world that involve more risk. The third such option is that those multinational forces take the first move to drive the Iraqi forces out of Kuwait. Again that would be an extremely risky move at this time. If a decision was to be made in that respect, I think it should not be made unilaterally by any of the parties there, but be considered at the United Nations after many alternatives had been tried and, perhaps, failed.

The fourth option, and this is being discussed, is that the forces would be used not only to drive Iraq out of Kuwait, but to depose Saddam Hussein from office in Iraq and put that government out of power to assure that no further such actions took place. Again, Mr. Speaker, that is a very dangerous contemplated action.

Of those four options which are open to the multinational forces in the Middle East, I think it is obvious that the first one is totally acceptable. The second one is also acceptable. But the third or fourth must be looked upon with serious reservation and should not be contemplated at the present time whatsoever.

As many other hon. members have said, I think every attempt has to be made to resolve this situation peacefully. The resolution before us also asks for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait. Well, I think we have to try and attain that goal through negotiated actions and through sanctions.

I noticed today that the Iraqi government has offered to sell its oil for \$21 per barrel, about half the world price, in an attempt to win friends. I hope that no nations of the world will be led astray in accepting that offer. If I

have the information correct, Iraq earns 85 per cent of its revenue through the sale of oil, and it is by the refusal to buy that oil that we are going to bring Iraq to its knees and make it listen to sense in this particular instance. When I say listen to sense, I really mean common sense.

• (1650)

If you try to justify what Iraq is doing today and has done in recent weeks against Kuwait, one day similar action may be used against Iraq itself by a bigger power. You cannot use this type of military action simply when it pleases you and hope that people will forget about it or that it will go away in the minds of the nations of the world. That is why I said there is some hypocrisy here. While the United States is now supporting multilateral action under the UN, it has taken unilateral action to serve its own purposes in the past. That was equally unacceptable.

Unfortunately, the ability of the United Nations to respond to such an attack as was made by Iraq on Kuwait through the use of peacekeeping forces is not adequate at the present time. Years ago the United Nations made a request to several countries of the world to designate standby forces for the United Nations so that when an incident like this took place, forces would be trained and in place so they could immediately respond to the situation.

Canada as a country, under both Liberal and Conservative governments, has designated that it will have forces ready and has always been ready to respond in that way. There have not been enough nations of the world to do that. As a result, when you do have such invasions, it lends itself to countries like the United States involving itself unilaterally at the request of Saudi Arabia to protect that nation. Nevertheless, it is not the most desirable way to proceed if we want to avoid unilateral action by nations and not common security through the United Nations.

There has been a great improvement in the United Nations in recent years. We can look at the action it took in helping resolve the situation in Afghanistan. We can look at other situations which the United Nations has been able to resolve in recent years. Much has had to do with the new attitude in the Soviet Union. I take this