

Nations at Stockholm, but I suppose it is also true to say that irony is not an unknown concept in international issues.

I am sure it is important for the European community and for NATO to be at the stage now where they are co-ordinating their international policies. We must remember that NATO is not the same thing as the European community. The communiqué the minister has tabled concerning the ministerial sessions of NATO contains the words "freedom and security" and refers to the need to preserve freedom and security on the part of all members of NATO. I hope that as we preserve these concepts internationally member nations, such as the military regime of Greece, will live up domestically to the ideals that undoubtedly she espouses if she is a signatory to this communiqué internationally.

• (1420)

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, I join, as do all members of my party, in the feelings of shock and horror expressed by the minister at the senseless massacre at the Tel Aviv airport. We also join him in the messages of sympathy to the families of the victims. There are two features of this appalling outrage I want to note. First, it was fully premeditated and fully planned and, second, it was aimed at entirely innocent civilians. It marks a new high in barbarism. One of the most regrettable features is that certain spokesmen for some governments in the Middle East condone this act of terrorism. All the more credit to King Hussein of Jordan who described it as a product of sick minds. There is no doubt of the revulsion of the whole civilized world at such acts of violence. Surely it is up to governments to co-operate more effectively in limiting and preventing the preparation of these deeds of terrorism within their own territories.

The general statement of the minister on the NATO ministerial meeting was most welcome to us and I think to men and women of good will throughout the world. Although much remains to be done to end confrontation in Central Europe, most striking and encouraging progress has been made.

The Moscow communiqué, setting out the results of the meeting between President Nixon and leaders of the U.S.S.R. indicates that the two superpowers have set their faces toward a more co-operative relationship. The SALT talks resulting in the signing of a treaty on the limitation of ABM systems and the further agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive arms mark a slackening of what has been called the mad momentum of the nuclear arms race.

The Berlin agreement removes a source of tension in Central Europe. Non-aggression treaties between the Federal Republic of Germany, the U.S.S.R. and Poland have opened the way to a reduction of fear and suspicion in that part of the world, and also opened the way to the proposed European security conference. I suggest we should now be ready to welcome both Germanys into the United Nations.

I pay tribute to Chancellor Brandt. In my view his statesmanlike initiatives have had a lot to do with the far better climate of affairs in Europe at the present time.

Tel Aviv Airport Massacre

We acknowledge that preparatory talks are necessary before the European security conference proceeds, but we hope that the NATO countries do not drag their feet on the ground of need for preparation. We think that the momentum of recent events should be followed by action.

The subject of mutual and balanced force reductions is a complex subject, but this is absolutely essential if there is to be reality in the reduction of tension in that part of the world. I have never been quite sure that Mr. Brosio, the former Secretary General of NATO, was the right person to send to deal with mutual and balanced force reductions. However that may be, I am glad to see this communiqué indicates that multilateral discussions will take place.

I would end by saying that the test of all these useful developments will be the momentum with which the nations use the favourable atmosphere and for positive and definite moves toward a more co-operative world community.

[Translation]

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I share the regrets and concern expressed by the hon. Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp) in regard to the recent massacre at the Tel Aviv airport which was no doubt organized and planned by criminal lunatics. We deplore such acts, whether they occur in Tel Aviv or elsewhere. We regret this escalation of reprovable acts by notorious criminals seeking to create panic wherever they go.

Such acts have been committed in Tel Aviv, and even here in Canada. Some are occurring now in Latin America, in Mexico and other countries.

We therefore join the representative of the government in expressing our most sincere condolences to the bereaved families.

Concerning the other subject dealt with by the hon. Secretary of State for External Affairs, the NATO meeting, I should say that negotiations between the Soviet authorities and the President of the United States have resulted in agreements on arms limitation, on the use and testing of nuclear arms. We suggest that it is not through arms that peace can be achieved in the world, but rather through understanding, charity and co-operation whether between Russia and the United States or any country, including Canada. I repeat, Mr. Speaker, that in my opinion it is through dialogue and understanding that a just and durable peace can be established in the world.

Now, even though people or representatives of government may say efforts are being made to achieve peace, we must recognize that the more peace is discussed the greater disagreement and bickering because between the various countries of the world. And it is certainly not through arms or criminal acts such as we have been witnessing recently that a just and durable peace can be established.

My colleagues and I are happy with the talks the President of the United States has held and we hope they will have favourable consequences, which might renew the hopes of the population as to the establishment of a just and durable peace throughout the world.