

Government to bring an end to the nationalization of Canadian resource industries which has discouraged investment in Canada; introduce tax incentives to restore competitive advantage and stimulate resource production and further processing in Canada; initiate a programme of incentives for research and development, and incentives for marketing activities of Canadian industries.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker):** It being six o'clock, it is my duty to inform the House that pursuant to Section 11 of Standing Order 62, proceedings on the motion have expired.

## PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 45 deemed to have been moved.

### NATIONAL SECURITY—EXPULSION OF SOVIET EMBASSY OFFICIAL. (B) STAFFING OF SOVIET EMBASSY

**Mr. John Gamble (York North):** Mr. Speaker, on April 2, 1982, I asked the then Secretary of State for External Affairs whether, in light of the expulsion from Canada of a certain Mikhail Abramov, Soviet diplomat, for unlawfully attempting to obtain high technology materials, it would not then appear appropriate to reduce the size of the Soviet diplomatic mission in Canada and thereby reduce the risk of further spying by the Soviet Union in our country. The Minister's reply was typically evasive and might well have been appropriate for another question. However, it certainly was in no way relevant to the question which I had asked.

Permit me to review the conduct of Soviets in our country in recent years and to tie in the significance of that question which I asked 18 months ago to circumstances as they apply in Canada today. The House will recall that in 1945, at the conclusion of the Second World War, a certain Igor Gouzenko defected to Canada and disclosed the existence of a Soviet espionage ring operated by the Soviet Union in our country, the act of a hardly friendly former ally. In 1978, 13 Soviet diplomats were expelled from our country for spying. In 1980, three staff members of the Soviet embassy were expelled for endeavouring to obtain classified materials. In 1982, Mikhail Abramov, the Soviet agent to whom I referred on April 2, was expelled, and then, more recently, on September 12 of 1983, two further Soviet agents were expelled for endeavouring once again to purchase high technology materials contrary to the laws of our country.

● (1800)

The most recent expulsions in September proved the point which I had endeavoured to make in April of 1982. The Soviets have absolutely nothing to lose in unleashing upon our nation their professional KGB agents to conduct the activities for which they are well trained. There appears to be, certainly in the minds of most reasonable Canadians, a need for some

### *Adjournment Debate*

kind of penalty which could be imposed upon a Government which specifically instructs its agents to break the laws of Canada. In the event that we are serious about curtailing the activities of the Soviet Union, and its agents in spying and conducting espionage activities or otherwise conducting themselves in an illegal fashion, principally endeavouring to obtain information which is otherwise unavailable to them, it is incumbent upon this Government to establish some stringent guidelines which would guide the Soviet Government in the conduct of its affairs and the affairs of its agents while in Canada.

On a number of occasions I have mentioned those specific remedial actions which should be taken. On one occasion I suggested it would be appropriate to advise the Soviet Union that, in the event it persisted in instructing its agents to behave illegally in this country, its staff should be reduced by one half. Its staff, of course, being those who are associated with both its embassy here in Ottawa and its consulate mission in Montreal.

There is little likelihood that my recommendation will be adopted by this Government. The incident in 1978 probably gives rise to the best kind of response which we could expect from the Government of the current Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) when he said, after being confronted with the knowledge of the activities of the 13 Soviet agents, that their activities would naturally be disturbing to the friendship between our two countries. I should have thought that his reaction, rather than being one of amazement, would have been one of anger, coupled with a dedication to the adoption of policies which would preclude that kind of conduct from occurring again. Yet the statement of the Prime Minister in 1978 was to the effect that he well expected that kind of activity to continue in the future. Of course, he has done nothing to discourage the Soviet Union from conducting illegal activities in our country since that date.

As a result of a question which I placed on the Order Paper, the House now knows that there are 44 Canadian citizens on the embassy staff of our country in Moscow. There are 45 Soviet citizens on the staff of the Soviet embassy in Ottawa and 16 Soviet citizens who work at the consulate in Montreal. Very clearly, as an initial step, Mr. Speaker, the 17 excessive Soviet representatives in this country should be eliminated in terms of establishing some parity between Canadian representation in the Soviet Union and Soviet representation in this country. I would urge the Government, in the interests of precluding the kind of activity which we find reprehensible, to take some steps to reduce the staff of the Soviet embassy in our country as a penalty for future espionage activities in Canada.

● (1805)

**Mr. Douglas Fisher (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member's question and his subsequent comments tonight are typically extreme. He ignores the fact that the vast amount of daily business between the two countries is profitable and necessary for both sides.