

Canada has indeed lost a great hero. Parliament has lost a loyal servant. Our sympathies go to Mrs. Currie, to his children and to his grandchildren.

Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): Mr. Speaker, I join with the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) and the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Turner) in offering the condolences of all members of my Party to the family of Lieutenant-Colonel Currie.

As has already been said, Colonel Currie was among that small band of human beings who demonstrated in the course of their lives truly exceptional courage in fighting not for themselves but for those around them. During the Second World War he led a particular band of Canadians in the course of an action which resulted in the saving of several thousands of Canadian lives in terms of its final consequence. His courage was of that kind of magnitude.

Following that very distinguished service to our country, Lieutenant-Colonel Currie became, as many Members of Parliament will know, a distinguished Sergeant-at-Arms here in the House, a position he always held with great capability and with great distinction. For many of us in the House during the period he was here, we have lost a friend and an acquaintance. Canada has lost a truly distinguished citizen.

Mr. Speaker: As the House would expect, I have already communicated to the family the sympathies of the House. I suspect, given the nature of the importance of this gentleman and his office, well known to all of us, the House would like to show its respect to Lieutenant-Colonel Currie and his family in the usual way.

[Whereupon the House stood in silence for one minute].

Mr. Speaker: Question Period will be extended by 10 minutes.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

ACID RAIN—UNITED STATES PRESIDENT'S COMMITMENT

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I am referring to a publication produced by our embassy in Washington of which there are 105,000 copies. It says "Available free upon request in the U.S. only". There are 16 pages, and 17 photographs in this particular issue on our Prime Minister.

An Hon. Member: Who cares?

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): It is two days in the life of our Prime Minister.

Oral Questions

• (1425)

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The right hon. gentleman knows the rules about displays. I must, therefore, ask him to put his question.

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): The relevance of my—

Some Hon. Members: Order, order.

Mr. Speaker: The right hon. gentleman can see exactly what is being caused by the raising of this. Could the right hon. gentleman please ask his question?

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): I am quoting from an official document of our Government in Washington available to Americans only. It refers to acid rain. In the words of the Prime Minister the document says:

We've obtained a full endorsement by the President of the report of our two personal envoys . . . This represents a real commitment—

Is the Prime Minister aware that on Friday John Herrington, the Secretary of Energy of the United States, was testifying against a Congressional Bill to control acid rain and said:

"Based on present information, there is no indication of a near term urgency."

Is that the type of commitment the Prime Minister obtained from the President and the President's Secretary of Energy?

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, if there was a document put out by the Embassy in Washington with only 17 pictures of me, I am going to have to talk to somebody and fire them.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Gauthier: I wouldn't be surprised at all.

Mr. Mulroney: This is not enough.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Benjamin: Be a Prime Minister.

Mr. Mulroney: Obviously the Public Affairs Department of the Embassy is doing its job extremely well.

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): Trying to keep its job.

Mr. Mulroney: I would like to give a little more guidance if I could, but I will listen to my right hon. friend complain.

With regard to the question he raised about acid rain, we have a commitment from the President of the United States speaking on behalf of his administration which, in our judgment, is satisfactory. We believe the administration is working toward those objectives. We will have an opportunity to judge for ourselves, as we all ought to, at an appropriate time.