

Canada signed a protocol on June 8, 1977, which prohibits any bombardment of populations, or any bombardment which leads to the deaths of victims, such as the victims of this conflict. The protocol that we signed specifically uses the words "bombardment" and the phrase "loss of life". As well, it refers to the "common heritage of mankind" and states that action to destroy these values is clearly contrary to international law.

I am asking the government to explain to us why it seems to be impossible for any nation to move ahead at the United Nations and invoke the protocols signed by almost all of the countries of the world in 1977 prohibiting bombardment of the kind that is occurring to-day.

The actions taking place in Dubrovnik are directly contrary to international law. It was anticipated as early as the nineteenth century and as recently as 1949 and 1977 that tragic incidents of this kind would occur. In 1977, the additional protocols were added to the earlier agreement.

My question for the government is: How long will we allow this madness to continue? We are now seeing the 16th or 17th truce in Croatia. Every truce seems to be broken. In the meantime, people are dying.

Here is a world treasure, the heritage of all mankind, and it is being systematically blasted into oblivion. Apart from some handwringing, expressions of dismay and expressions of concern, the world appears to be standing by and doing very little.

We were so anxious, honourable senators in the name of humanity, to enter the joint action in Iraq and Kuwait. We deplored the fact that human lives were being destroyed, that human rights were in jeopardy, and that we had a responsibility to protect human life. Is the human suffering in Yugoslavia today less important than that which occurred in Kuwait and Iraq?

Senator Doody: Do you have a question? This is a statement.

Senator Perrault: This is part of my question.

Senator Doody: The rules permit you to speak—

Senator Perrault: I will make a statement at the beginning of the week as well.

Senator Doody: I hate correcting you, senator, because you are such a wonderful man.

● (0950)

Senator Perrault: You demonstrate that you are not as concerned about human rights as others here are.

Senator Doody: I am concerned about my rights.

Senator Perrault: My question to the government is the following: How long are we to stand by and allow this disaster to continue without some positive initiative by Canada at the United Nations to invoke the protocols that we have signed in good faith on so many occasions?

Hon. John Lynch-Staunton (Deputy Leader of the Government): I agree with Senator Doody that what we have heard is not so much a question as a statement of concern which is

shared by all. I hesitate to go any further because I am not privileged to have the leader's briefing notes and any answer I give may be incomplete or perhaps even erroneous. I would prefer to let it go at that, as the senator will certainly want to come back to this topic next week.

Senator Perrault: A statement would be appreciated next week, but several hundred more people will have died by then.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

PROPOSED CANADIAN AID TO SOVIET UNION

Hon. H.A. Olson: Does the Deputy Leader of the Government have a copy of the statement by the minister respecting Canada's participation in foreign aid to what was the Soviet Union, but which obviously will be named something else before long?

The Leader of the Government in the Senate told me yesterday that he would put that statement on the record today because he has carried it in his book for two or three days. If the deputy leader does not have it, I will accept that. However, in case I do not return on Monday, perhaps it could be put on the record then so that it would appear in *Debates of the Senate* on Monday or Tuesday of next week.

Senator Lynch-Staunton: I have made good note of that, Senator Olson.

ANSWER TO ORDER PAPER QUESTION

CANADIAN MUSEUMS OF CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHY AND CARICATURE

Hon. John Lynch-Staunton (Deputy Leader of the Government) tabled the answer to Question No. 11 on the Order Paper—by Senator Molgat.

FEDERAL REAL PROPERTY BILL

THIRD READING—REQUEST FOR TRANSCRIPTS OF COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS—ORDER STANDS

On the Order:

Third reading of Bill C-3, An Act respecting the acquisition, administration and disposition of real property by the Government of Canada.

Hon. Gildas L. Molgat (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, I have been attempting to obtain the transcript of the committee hearings on this particular bill. I spoke on this bill on second reading and raised a number of questions. I was unable to be at the committee meeting itself because I was attending another committee meeting at the time and, try as I might to get transcripts, I have been unable to get them. I would ask that this matter be deferred.

Order stands.