

I know the Government of Canada takes the stand that it will not reopen the agreement —

**Senator Murray:** All three countries take that position.

**Senator Thériault:** Then why is it —

**Senator Murray:** All three countries take that position, I repeat.

**Senator Thériault:** I did not know you were so touchy. I was about to ask you another question.

**Senator Murray:** Go ahead. I am all ears.

**Senator Thériault:** If the U.S. Congress and administration are of the same opinion as the Government of Canada that, in fact, the parallel accords will not change or reopen the agreement, why then would the U.S. administration and Congress not proceed with the fast-tracking of the accord at it now stands, instead of waiting to see whether those parallel accords will be accepted?

**Senator Murray:** Honourable senators, the legislative system in the United States is far different from what it is here, and so is the legislative timetable. The legislative process in the United States involves discussions between the administration and Congress, which are going on as we speak.

All we are suggesting is that the House of Commons should address itself to the bill at second reading, this being almost the end of March and the treaty being scheduled for implementation on January 1 next, and that possibly the Senate might want to consider a pre-study so that they can do justice to a matter as complex and important as this.

**Senator Thériault:** Honourable senators, the Leader of the Government in the Senate just made the case. In fact, what is happening in the United States is that the administration has been negotiating with Congress, and oftentimes with the members of the different parties in that Congress.

What the Leader of the Government is saying is that he wants to proceed as this government has proceeded with other important matters, namely by ramming what they believe is right down the throats of the Canadian legislators in the other place and in this house. Why not admit it?

**Senator Murray:** Honourable senators, I think a more elegant way to put it is that it is a seamless web.

**Senator Molgat:** Another seamless web. The previous one didn't work very well.

## YUGOSLAVIA

### PEACEKEEPING FORCES—EXPOSURE TO UNREASONABLE HAZARDS—REQUIREMENT FOR UN INTERVENTION

**Hon. Raymond J. Perrault:** Honourable senators, I have a question about the Canadian troop presence in Bosnia and in Yugoslavia. We have heard reports in recent hours of Canadians being injured, severely in certain cases, as a result of the shelling of UN positions in that area. These questions arise from that incident.

How long will the world tolerate the depredations of homicidal maniacs attempting to alter the face of what used to be Yugoslavia in the name of ethnic cleansing? How long will we be prepared to expose Canadian troops to unreasonable hazards in their efforts to bring aid to the innocent victims on all sides in this terrible conflict? How long will endless and fruitless missions to Belgrade continue, with UN representatives, as they are doing now, begging for the support and cooperation of officials there, and with agreements being shattered almost every day without any real intent to abide by the spirit and letter of those agreements? How long will the Bosnian people be denied access to the means that they require to at least defend themselves?

I ask the Leader of the Government in the Senate whether any active consideration is being given to entering another phase of the international community's reaction to this fratricide; whether tough and effective measures may be taken to end this senseless, useless and totally immoral slaughter of the innocents.

**Hon. Lowell Murray (Leader of the Government):** Honourable senators, Canada, of course, condemns the obstruction of the United Nations' efforts to bring relief to the Bosnian population.

As the honourable senator knows, two of our soldiers were injured yesterday, one of them critically. Four other members of the peacekeeping forces were also injured. A number of civilians were killed.

The obstruction of the relief efforts is contrary to international law and to the Geneva Convention. Those who are in contravention of that law must bear the responsibility for this situation and will have to pay the price for it through international law.

We are aware of questions raised about the effectiveness of the UN troops there, and we know that the troops must have the resources to carry out their mission. However, commanders, including General Morillon, continue to stress the need for the UN troops to be there.

**Senator Perrault:** I ask the leader this question, and I know it is a difficult area for the government, and indeed for all governments: There was a total resolve on the part of the free nations of the western world to intervene in Kuwait when the rights of the people there were threatened. There was no hesitation in engaging in a program of precision bombing to