

As honourable senators know, there are two approaches to recognition by Canada or any other country. There is the *de jure* recognition and the *de facto* recognition.

Here we have a situation—and I personally feel very strongly about it—where Canada has made a statement regarding the annexation of the Baltic states by the Soviet Union, by the communists, and the method by which those states were annexed. We recall the freight cars that rumbled out in the night. I think particularly of June 14, 1941, when from my wife's Baltic country approximately 40,000 people were herded into cattle cars and sent to Siberia. Fortunately, the communists missed my father-in-law and his family by just two minutes, and they were lucky enough to get out of the country. His crime, as I have said before in the Senate, was that he was a member of Parliament and a lawyer.

Canada, to its credit, said, as did the United States, "We will accept *de facto* recognition, but we do not accept the *de jure* recognition of the annexation of the Baltic States by the U.S.S.R."

I telephoned the department in order to clarify the situation regarding recognition. I inquired whether the words "Canada by persons not representing a sovereign state or government recognized by Canada" included *de jure* as well as *de facto* recognition. To explain what I was talking about, I said that I was thinking of the honorary consuls of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania in Canada.

The information I received was that there was only one honorary consul from the Baltic states accredited by Canada—the Lithuanian honorary consul. The other two are no longer accredited or put in the book, as it is referred to, which lists diplomatic, consular and other foreign representatives. I should mention that the listing of all the Baltic consuls in that book was started by the Right Honourable John Diefenbaker.

The Latvian and Estonian consuls are no longer listed in the book, yet they carry out consular services for Free Estonia and Free Latvia. It is important that we should not forget how the communists have treated free and independent small nations. If the communist system had ever changed we might say, over a period of time, that those harsh conditions will improve and the problems will be resolved. But the situation has not changed. In those small countries there is still no religious freedom, and so on.

This amendment could insidiously destroy the stand which Canada, the United States and Australia have taken. Those two Baltic consuls in Canada have now been denied official consular recognition by Canada. In Australia the government that took away that status was thrown out and another government came to power, and the new government again brought in the *de jure* recognition for those three Baltic states. I wish to emphasize that.

What happens to those two Baltic consuls in Canada who obviously are not fully recognized? I would be happy if Senator Macquarrie would confer with his colleagues in the Department of External Affairs and report to us, in the event of any misunderstanding, that there is recognition by Canada

of the Estonian and Latvian consuls, and they are now included in the book along with the Lithuanian honorary consul. If they are not, and we pass this amendment, could there be a situation where the Estonian and Latvian consuls could be charged with a summary conviction offence? I am not satisfied about that, and it is a point that has to be clarified.

Honourable senators, I have one further point concerning this matter. I know that the present government takes pride in the fact that it always consults with the provinces before bringing in legislation. We may argue that this amendment comes under "peace, order and good government" and that there is no need to discuss it with the provinces. However, I am impressed with the emphasis of the government on the fact that "we are going to have consultation with the provinces."

When I introduced the legislation in 1977, Senator Smith (Colchester), in committee, said, "You have waited eleven years before bringing in this bill. What is your reason for bringing it in now? Why the haste? You have gone approximately eleven years without it." When I inquired as to the reason for the delay, I was told that there had to be consultation with the provinces, and also that the department had waited to combine the diplomatic and consular conventions in one bill. That was given as the reason, but, frankly, I feel that eleven years for consultation is somewhat too long. However, that was the answer given.

I appreciate that honourable senators on the other side of the chamber are moving quicker, but I remain disturbed, and I would hate to see my friend Senator Macquarrie embarrassed if he has to tell us, "We did not discuss this with the provinces." I look forward to his reply, and the answers we shall receive when the bill is before the committee.

Senator Macquarrie: Honourable senators—

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, it is my duty to inform the Senate that if the Honourable Senator Macquarrie speaks now, his speech will have the effect of closing the debate.

Senator Macquarrie: Honourable senators, I am becoming Alpha and Omega all too quickly. I am most grateful to my colleague opposite for his remarks and his contribution to this debate. I suppose it is an attestation of the vitality of our political system that a Prince Edward Island Tory and an Ontario Grit should be, on so many of these aspects, *ad idem* insofar as we view these important matters.

I shall not presume to attempt to answer the specific and very important questions which Senator Thompson has directed to me. I recall the Honourable C. M. Drury, in replying to questions when legislation was put forward in the other place to set up a commission, asking, "What's the use of hiring a dog and doing your own barking?" We shall have experts appear before the Standing Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs.

I should say to Senator Thompson that I have a fellow feeling about the Baltic states in that I feel profound disquiet about what has happened. On the other hand, I happen to be the Canadian who delivered the anti-colonialism speech at the United Nations General Assembly some years ago. What, in