

For most, the deep wounds will never heal. I am particularly reminded of one father in Montreal who is still living the events of June 23. He cannot accept that his daughter died on flight 182. He lives in daily expectation that she will return.

These tragedies will not fade nor should they. To forget is to insult the memory of those who died. To remember and to act, is to give proper meaning to those who died.

I commend you for your efforts to establish the memorial fund. To dedicate a wing of the Credit Valley Hospital is a most appropriate way to memorialize the three hundred and twenty-nine men, women and children who died last June 23. I wish your efforts every success.

You will recall that last summer the Governments of Canada, India and Ireland agreed that a memorial should be erected on the coast of Ireland to remember the Air India tragedy. The Irish authorities have provided the land for the memorial at Dunmanus Bay, some sixty-five miles from Cork. Canada and India are now discussing the matter and I expect that the memorial will be erected in time for inauguration on June 23 next year.

A few moments ago I mentioned that I intend to ensure that Canada will be in the forefront of countries seeking new initiatives to combat global terrorism.

I do not believe that only in the international arena is there a need for new initiatives and action.

In our own country and in our own lives there is need for action as well. A few Canadians have been willing participants in acts of international terror as well. In many cases, old struggles and new enmities have been brought to our shores. They have not been forgotten in the climate of tolerance and civility that are the hallmarks of the Canadian system. Instead, the very instruments of tolerance and civility are misused by persons who seek and support violent changes for struggles far from Canada.

In dealing with global terrorism we must look inwards as much as we look outwards. Not to do so is to lose faith with those who have died. The three hundred and twenty-nine victims of Air India will not forgive us if we do not.