

regrettable if, instead of having made this arrangement with the Soviet Union, he had not been able to bring back something solid.

Canadians of all shades of political opinion in Canada, regardless of the party to which they belong, recognize the nature of the Canadian community. We recognize that Canada is not made up of any one national group. True, we have the two founding races, but we recognize that our country is composed of many groups of different national origins—the Ukrainians, the Poles, the Italians, the Czechs, the Russians, the Roumanians, the Scandinavians of the various countries, the Croats, the Slovenes, the Serbs, and others. These, together with the two founding races, make up the Canadian family.

I do not believe we serve the cause of Canadian unity, or our national interest, when we seek to convey that a particular political leader, or a political group, has inimical reactions to another cultural group in this country. That is not in keeping with the nature of the Canadian family. But we are all interested in the Ukrainian people with their rich cultural traditions. Of course, no one could expect all Canadians to have the same intensity of feeling of Senator Yuzyk and others of his national origin.

I believe it is not in the interests of Canadian unity, or in the interests of any particular group concerned, to suggest that, as a result of anything that the Prime Minister said, there was not on his part, and on the part of the Government, a deep concern for all that is represented in the richness of the Ukrainian culture and society.

I know Ukrainian people, I have represented them in the House of Commons for many years. They are among my closest friends, as Senator Yuzyk knows. I find it difficult to sit in my seat and have the Prime Minister of this country characterized as one who has not given the recognition to this group of Canadians which it certainly deserves.

I have listened to what various commentators have said. This morning I got a copy of some of the remarks that the Prime Minister made since he returned and on his return. I have before me an excerpt of a transcript of the Prime Minister's interview with press and radio reporters en route to Ottawa from his Soviet visit, May 28, 1971. A question was put to the Prime Minister and he replied to it:

Q: Mr. Prime Minister, did you during your talks with Soviet officials discuss the subject of reunification of families which are separated between Canada and the U.S.S.R.?

A. Yes, I discussed it with Prime Minister Kosygin and then it was discussed again in Kiev with the Prime Minister of the Ukraine and it was brought up particularly by Walter Deakon, our member of Parliament from Toronto.

At this point, I want to put in a parenthesis. Mr. Walter Deakon is a member of Parliament on the Government side of the House of Commons. He is a Canadian of Ukrainian descent, who speaks Ukrainian. He travelled to

the Soviet Union with the Prime Minister. That is the end of my parenthesis, and I continue now with the answer given by the Prime Minister:

I think the more significant reply I got was from Kosygin who said that he would—well, for one thing that he would look at the humanitarian aspects, that he would try to ensure—he would give it personal attention—that reunification of families would be proceeded with. There had been some substantial progress, you will remember, after Mr. Pearson made representations in 1963, and he (Mr. Kosygin) indicated to me that he was determined to follow it up and when I said that we would present a list through our embassy of cases that deserved of study, he said he would look at them and make sure that they got his personal attention. What follows from this, I cannot predict of course, but I would say it is one of the by-products of establishing trust and confidence between our countries, as we tried to do in this trip, that we are in a position to deal with cases like this, that we not only talk about trade and economic matters but we can, because this confidence exists, appeal to them for dealing on a humanitarian basis with certain cases, you know, over and beyond what their legal duties are.

This was carefully thought-out language, which the Prime Minister used. It certainly shows his regard for Canadians of Ukrainian descent, his desire to see that families which have been separated for many years might be brought together. I think it is only fair to put these remarks on the record, when one is talking about drawing conclusions, unwarranted conclusions, from what the Prime Minister said, conclusions that are intended to suggest that he has no regard for Canadians of Ukrainian origin in Canada.

Again, on June 1, 1971, there were remarks by the Prime Minister to the press following the question period:

Q. Mr. Prime Minister, you have been criticized quite a bit in the last couple of days by Ukrainians in Canada regarding some statements you made over the weekend. Could you clarify that apparent comparison between FLQ terrorists and Ukrainian nationalists?

We all know Mr. Trudeau. Everyone in Canada knows that he is a man of utmost frankness, who sometimes, to those of us who have been in politics a long time, is overly frank. That is his method, that is his technique; I think that is one of the reasons why people have such confidence in him. They know that he looks at all aspects of a problem, fearlessly. Mr. Trudeau replied:

Well, I talked about it here in this room I believe, or at least at some interview I gave in front of microphones. I made it clear that I was not putting them on an equal footing and I also added that the countries were not the same, that we had a democracy here with forms of freedom of speech which I believe are unusual in the U.S.S.R. Therefore, there was no indication that they were on a parallel basis. The point I was making and which I made publicly,

[Hon. Mr. Martin.]