

consistency of rules over, for example, who could carry guns, under what circumstances could they use guns, what they would report and how they would handle various incidents. All of the various agencies seemed to be operating on their own.

The report finally surfaced, partly due to badgering by journalists from *The Globe and Mail* and other newspapers under access to information legislation. We now understand that a committee of Deputy Ministers has been established and the Deputy Solicitor General will take some responsibility for chairing it. Ultimately, there will be some effort at co-ordination.

I say to the Parliamentary Secretary and to the Solicitor General through him that we will watch that committee very carefully. It will be very important that some very real resources be given to that committee, that it is not just a pro forma exercise done simply for window dressing. This is a very, very important issue.

At the federal level, there must be tremendous consistency in dealing with the issues of co-ordinating our law enforcement agencies across Canada. We on the West Coast, as the Parliamentary Secretary will recognize, know of problems we have had with wildlife officials in their attempts to enforce the law or to harass fishermen, depending on one's point of view. They have been agitating to carry guns. Under what circumstances do they do that? Who is in charge of all of this? The FLEUR report indicated that no one was. It is critical that there be quick and immediate provision of serious resources by the federal Government to implementing recommendations of the FLEUR report and carrying it through. That cannot wait. We will also ask and press for consistent and regular reports to the Standing Committee on Justice and Solicitor General. That should be done and I look to the Parliamentary Secretary to give us an undertaking that that will be done and that we will hear regularly and consistently on the progress of the Deputy Minister's consideration.

• (1740)

Let me mention another report that is relevant. I refer to the Senate report of a couple of years ago. After the assassination in the Armenian-Turkish issue the Senate made a report and I have seen a copy of it. One of the recommendations of that report, which is a couple of years old, is that the Solicitor General's Department be responsible for co-ordinating response to hostage-taking issues. That was a very clear and specific recommendation.

Adjournment Debate

I put the following question to the Parliamentary Secretary. Was that recommendation implemented? Did the new Solicitor General (Mr. Blais), when he took office in February, understand that report? Did he take any steps to implement the report? If he has not, why not? Will he?

These are issues which should be undertaken and commitments made now that the Government will no longer allow hostage-takings and the chaos in federal law enforcement to continue, and that today we will get a commitment from the Government that this issue will be taken seriously by the new administration of the Department of the Solicitor General and that we will get action now.

Mr. Benno Friesen (Parliamentary Secretary to Solicitor General of Canada and Minister of State (Agriculture)): I welcome the Hon. Member for Victoria (Mr. Brewin) as the critic for the Solicitor General and thank him for his guarded compliments. I know that any time he throws a compliment my way something is brewing! We will follow that in the future.

Mr. Wappel: Bad pun!

Mr. Friesen: I agree with the Hon. Member that the law enforcement agencies that worked on the case here in Ottawa deserve all the compliments we can throw in their direction. The RCMP and the Ottawa police forces work together very well. We are thankful that nothing untoward happened beyond what did happen.

I am sorry that the Member raised the question at the adjournment debate today. He asks a very legitimate question regarding the co-ordination of these law enforcement agencies. The newspaper reports indicated that there was a problem with co-ordination between the time when the hostage-taking first began and when it ended here in Ottawa. The public itself is concerned about that lack of contact or lapse of contact from the beginning to the end.

The Hon. Member mentions the FLEUR Report. As he indicated, there were more than 40 different Government agencies involved in it. As I stated, I am sorry the Hon. Member raised this issue so soon after the event, because it is a serious question and deserves a full answer. However, if the Hon. Member wants a full answer, it is not adequate or fair to raise it one week after the question was raised in the House. We can possibly provide a partial answer, but if the Hon. Member wants an adequate answer, then surely he has to give FLEUR an opportunity to do the investigation that will provide us the answer the Hon. Member is seeking, which is some type of assurance that there will be