

We have services here in Canada that are specialized and do exactly that type of risk assessment. It has been done. I do not think it would be a very secure measure for me to disclose today what our security measures are all about.

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### BALTIC STATES

**Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg Transcona):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to turn the attention of the House for a minute to another tragedy unfolding, that which is unfolding in the Baltic states, and ask a question of the Secretary of State for External Affairs. I am sure I speak for all members when I say how concerned we are about the violence which we have seen, particularly in Lithuania, in recent days. We are very pleased, of course, that the House has been able to speak with one voice in the way that it did earlier.

• (1500)

Will the Secretary of State for External Affairs make it absolutely clear to President Gorbachev on behalf of all Canadians that a pre-condition for continuing good will toward Mr. Gorbachev and the Soviet Union is that the democratically elected governments of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia not be overthrown with Mr. Gorbachev standing idly by while this kind of thing threatens to happen?

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member and others in the House for their agreement to unanimously support the resolution that was adopted this morning.

I think it is of fundamental importance that the Soviet authorities be under no illusion about the seriousness of the people and Parliament of Canada on this issue.

The hon. member asked me for an undertaking with regard to a communication with Mr. Gorbachev indicating how much was at issue here, how much Canadian co-operation would be affected. That has already been done. The Prime Minister's letter could not have been clearer. That letter was sent on Sunday. We expect a response to it.

### Oral Questions

With regard to other things which we might do to be of help in a practical way, I found it very helpful in the past that there was the degree of co-operation among private members who are interested in this issue. Many members of this House made proposals on which we were to be able to act with respect to earlier chapters in the history of the Baltic states. I would certainly welcome those kinds of constructive proposals from the hon. member and others.

**Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg Transcona):** Mr. Speaker, I thank the minister for his answer. I say to the House that I had the opportunity, along with other members of this House to be in Lithuania just under a year ago for the election of the Sajudis government there. I cannot think of a more peaceful and democratic bunch of people. I say to President Gorbachev, if he permits their violent overthrow, then he should give his Nobel Peace Prize back.

I have a supplementary question for the Secretary of External Affairs. What does Canada intend to do at the United Nations or in some other way to bring the issue of the Baltic states and its annexation by the Soviet Union into the international arena where it properly belongs?

We have never recognized the annexation of those three states. I think it is time that the government took some initiative to bring this into the international arena where the Soviet Union can have impressed upon it the fact that people regard the Baltic states as a special case.

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I think there are two areas to which it is most useful for us to turn our attention. I agree with the member that the dramatic changes and circumstances require us to approach this with urgency. One is the United Nations; the other is the CSE process. Neither is simple, because of the capacity of the Soviet Union with its rights to veto in a practical or formal way any such consideration.

I must confess to the member that the priority of my officials on this question is to try to be of help to Canadians and Canadian interests in Lithuania. We will be moving soon to see if there are ways in which we can act on the diplomatic front.

**Mr. Speaker:** I think there has been some consideration in the Chamber. I am going to look to the hon. leader of the opposition on a point of order.