

Oral Questions

One thing that the black community in South Africa should not believe is the news reports occasionally filed by Mr. Windsor. I regret to say that.

The signal that we are trying to send to them, essentially, is that we expect and will do everything we can to achieve the result that the Commonwealth Conference in Vancouver will continue to increase the pressure for change in the apartheid system upon the Government of South Africa.

ROOT OF VIOLENCE

Ms. Pauline Jewett (New Westminster—Coquitlam): Mr. Speaker, would the Minister not agree with the black majority in South Africa that the real root of violence in South Africa is the apartheid regime itself?

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, there is absolutely no question about that. The Hon. Member would probably be aware of a study recently done by the University of Pretoria which indicated that in a period, I believe beginning in 1985, while it was possible to attribute something between 100 and 200 deaths to the ANC, it was possible in that same period to attribute between 1,000 and 2,000 deaths to the activities of the South African Government.

Not only is violence at the heart and core of apartheid, but violence is also being practised in a deathly fashion by the Government of South Africa.

MINISTER'S POSITION

Ms. Pauline Jewett (New Westminster—Coquitlam): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is for the same Minister. To make this amply clear, since we do want one message to go to the black majority in South Africa, will the Minister also agree that since the root of the violence is apartheid itself sometimes a resort to violence is absolutely essential in the struggle?

Some Hon. Members: No, no!

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister has made clear and I have made clear that this Government does not and will not condone the use of violence.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): We do, however, understand those frustrations and those forces which can cause violence to be resorted to. We understand that violence is at the heart of the apartheid system, and that is why we are determined to do everything we can, while there is still a breath of influence left in Canada, to bring an end to the apartheid system.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRESENCE IN GALLERY OF MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Mr. Speaker: I wish to draw to the attention of Hon. Members the presence in the gallery today of the Honourable Helmut Schäfer, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs for the Federal Republic of Germany.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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[Translation]

IMMIGRATION

GROSSMANN AFFAIR—ALLEGED HUMANITARIAN CONSIDERATIONS

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier): Mr. Speaker, I should like to return to the Minister of State (Immigration) and ask him the following question. We know that under the Immigration Act, whoever wants to submit an application for landed immigrant status must do so outside Canada. We know also that Mr. Grossmann never submitted an official application while outside Canada. On the basis of some press reports, as well as comments made by the Minister himself, we know that irregularities were committed.

In view of what the Minister replied yesterday when asked about the compassionate or humanitarian grounds which brought about this decision, I should like him to share with the House today and identify what these compassionate and humanitarian grounds were.

Mr. Rossi: Well, he knows the Prime Minister!

[English]

Hon. Gerry Weiner (Minister of State (Immigration)): Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of the Hon. Member, I have already tabled the guidelines under which this particular case was considered. Just as a refresher, because obviously the Member should be as completely clear about the facts as I am, from the time that letter was referred to my office in January it took us some four months to act. That is not exactly expeditious treatment, that is not exactly jumping to attention. If that is the kind of favouritism somebody in the Prime Minister's Office asked them to get, that is just normal processing.

I made a decision on May 4—

Mr. Marchi: Jump higher, Gerry.

Mr. Weiner: I was not involved in any technical details beyond that decision, but that was a decision to allow inland processing in this case. That is completely normal. Fifteen thousand Minister's permits are issued. Something like 20 per cent or 25 per cent of all immigrants are landed by that