

<p>24. <i>Energy situation in the Community — Report (Doc. 96/79) by Mr Flämig on behalf of the Committee on Energy and Research:</i> <i>Mr Flämig, rapporteur</i> 150 <i>Lord Bessborough, on behalf of the European Conservative Group; Mr Brunner, Member of the Commission</i> 151</p> <p>25. <i>Directive on the protection of the interests of members and others in sociétés anonymes — Report (Doc. 136/79) by Mr Schmidt on behalf of the Legal Affairs Committee:</i> <i>Mr Schmidt, rapporteur</i> 152 <i>Mr Sieglerschmidt, on behalf of the</i></p>	<p><i>Socialist Group; Mr Caro, on behalf of the Christian-Democratic Group (EPP); Mr Feit, on behalf of the Liberal and Democratic Group; Mr Stetter, on behalf of the European Conservative Group; Mr Ansquer, on behalf of the Group of European Progressive Democrats; Mr Davignon, Member of the Commission</i> 154</p> <p>26. <i>Urgent procedure</i> 158</p> <p>27. <i>Agenda</i> 158</p> <p>28. <i>Tabling and inclusion in the agenda of a document</i> 158</p> <p>29. <i>Agenda for next sitting</i> 159 <i>Annex</i> 160</p>
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IN THE CHAIR : MR COLOMBO

President

(The sitting was opened at 10.20 a.m.)

President. — The sitting is open.

1. *Approval of minutes*

President. — The minutes of proceedings of yesterday's sitting have been distributed.

Since there are no objections, the minutes of proceedings are approved.

2. *Documents received*

President. — I have received from the committees the following reports :

- by Mr Shaw, on behalf of the Committee on Budgets, on the list of requests for the carry-over of appropriations from the 1978 to the 1979 financial year (non-automatic carry-overs) (Doc. 165/79);
- by Mr Notenboom, on behalf of the Committee on Budgets, on the proposal from the Commission to the Council for a regulation on the measures to be taken in the event of irregularities affecting the own resources referred to in the decision of 21 April 1970 and the organization of an information system for the Commission in this field (Doc. 167/79);
- by Mr Ripamonti, on behalf of the Committee on Budgets, on the draft estimates of revenue and expenditure of the European Parliament for the financial year 1980 (Doc. 176/79).

3. *Agenda*

President. — Since they are still under discussion in committee, the Ripamonti reports which are entered on the agenda for today's sitting after the oral question (Doc. 648/78) on the Rhine will be considered later in the day. The exact time will be decided later.

4. *Tribute to Aldo Moro*

President. — Ladies and gentlemen, a year ago in Strasbourg we were horrified to learn of the murder of Aldo Moro, slain in a moment of mindless and brutal terrorism after a long and terrible captivity.

The tragedy of that event has left such a mark on contemporary history, and so great is the significance of Aldo Moro as the symbol of the established order under attack, that we feel the desire, on this first anniversary of his death, to pay tribute to him and to his work on behalf of democracy in Italy and on behalf of the European Community.

But we must also take heed of the grim lesson to be learned from an event which, alas, is not alone of its kind.

The terrorist violence which struck down an innocent victim in Aldo Moro was an affront to every person who believes in human values, in peaceful coexistence in society and in the daily practice of the democratic ideal.

After cruelly holding to ransom the established order, the feelings of so many people and society as a whole, political terrorism chose as a victim one of the most eminent politicians in Italy. This was the horrifying and dramatic admission that such terrorism is impotent in its struggle to overthrow the free and democratic order.

President

But the violent and destructive pattern of terrorism is still with us, and has since claimed other victims. Hardly a day passes in our countries without the continued challenge of international terrorism to our well-being, to civil liberties and to the state itself. As one who always sought to bring into the democratic arena the discussion of contemporary events, and in a typical expression of the democratic beliefs he held, Aldo Moro once said, when commenting on a violent demonstration :

The cause and nature of violence are all too often shrouded in mystery. But we know for certain that any kind of violence, when directed against the free system, is unthinkable and inadmissible. Whatever the cause it serves and whatever the ideal it upholds, these can and must be pursued within the law, by means which are sometimes slow and beset with difficulties but by which freedom and progress can flourish. Where there is freedom, nothing is impossible ; where there is violence and tyranny, all may be lost. The condemnation of violence, from whatever source and whatever its supposed credentials, must be strong and unequivocal. We expect and we can be sure that the wheels of democracy will move in a framework which must not be authoritarian, but strong and reliable. Where prevention and deterrence are needed, we expect to see set in motion the measures which, although of a democratic order, need not be any less effective.

Public and political opinion must be mobilized to reject any attack on democracy and uphold the freedom which is the ideal of our nation.

It is significant, of course, that this inadmissible violence is often directed against the political parties and the trade unions which, although inviolable like every other expression of civilized life, symbolize freedom as the supreme ideal, because it is in the parties and unions that social ideas and interests meet, merge and are established. Any attack on them is an attack on the whole system, of which these institutions are the tangible expression. If one is threatened, all the others, without distinction, are also threatened.

The Europe of the Community — whose peoples are represented by this Parliament — emerged as a result of the determined rejection of every form of oppression, tyranny or violence, be they the work of totalitarian régimes or terrorist groups which, rejecting the values of civilized life, resort to every means from intimidation to political violence, including brutal execution, to undermine freedom and civilized existence.

The direct elections in this Europe of democratic nations and peoples will provide the ultimate proof that we are a community of free men and women who have chosen the way of democracy in preference to violence and oppression. We call on Europe to do its utmost to isolate the terrorists, to expose their subversive bases and to oppose their violence, using every available means — while respecting the rights of individuals and the community — which our constitutions and our laws allow.

If terrorism seems to threaten some societies more than others, we must remember that it is an affront and a threat to the common ideal of freedom and democracy in all our countries. It is only through the rejection of violence by every citizen in the Community, and through legislative and administrative measures coordinated at Community level, that we can extirpate this canker which is a barrier to the joint development of our societies towards a more civilized way of live and the greater respect of human rights.

This Parliament is meeting for the last time before the historic direct elections by universal suffrage. Here, before this Parliament, I want to pay tribute to the views of Aldo Moro on the value of the European Community. For many years, as a politician and as a leader of the Italian Government and Italian political life, he dedicated himself to the construction of Europe with all the commitment born of his humanistic and legal background, of his deep-rooted democratic ideals and of his Christian upbringing. In his words :

As Italians and as Europeans, we look to a united Europe with a tremendous sense of hope. Other than the solidarity of Europe, we cannot conceive of anything which will be more effective in overcoming within us distrust, the allure of decadence and the risk and disappointment of isolation.

Throwing off the chauvinistic trammels of the past, we have turned towards a Europe which is our neighbour and our equal in the hope that, apart from the priceless benefits of an economic Community, we shall also achieve a similar political development towards a supranational structure and a dimension which is suited, through reasonable expansion, to the aspirations of our citizens and the needs of the times.

These words are bequeathed to us by a man who was murdered for the very ideals in which he believed and for which he laboured. They are an admonition to us to remain true to the aims for which this Parliament has worked so hard and for which the people of Europe are now involved in the largest and most typical expression of democracy at work in modern times.

With sadness we again pay tribute to the memory of Aldo Moro, and we offer our humble condolence to his family and to the Italian nation, which is still a prey to terrorism and violence.

5. Decisions on requests for early votes

President. — The next item is the decision on two requests for early votes.

We consider first the motion for a resolution (Doc. 162/79), tabled by Mr Ansquer on behalf of the Group of European Progressive Democrats, requesting an early vote to wind up the debate on the oral question (Doc. 112/79/rev.) on Community supplies of raw materials.