

## In the motion Harper misrepresents nature of international involvement

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In the motion, Harper misrepresents nature of international involvement when he stated "Canada is part of a multi-national force under the aegis of the UN" . (Parliament, may 18, 2006)

RELATIONSHIP AMONG ENDURING FREEDOM (US\_LED OPERATION), International Security Assistance Force (NATO) and UN Security Council

There has been extensive confusion about international involvement in the invasion and occupation of Afghanistan. Continually the military and the governments have claimed that Canada is involved in an international operation, or a NATO operation.

Canada joined the US-led Operation Enduring Freedom in the invasion of Afghanistan. This was not a UN Operation. The International Security Assistance Force (NATO) is part of Operation Enduring Freedom. Former Ambassador Heinbecker in a presentation on May 12 in Ottawa affirmed that Canada is there under Operation Enduring Freedom.

The UN Security Council in subsequent resolutions appeared to support the ISAF providing it is in keeping with the UN Charter.

It could be argued that numerous actions by the ISAF are not in keeping with one of the key purposes of the UN Charter

to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained,

Undoubtedly, the US led "Operation Enduring Freedom" of which the ISAF is a part has led to violations of the Convention on Torture, and international humanitarian law and to violations of international law related to the Geneva Protocol II on prohibited weapons such as depleted uranium, and of numerous Environmental instruments. ..

There are outstanding legal issues that have not been resolved.  
The motion must be defeated.

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