

External Affairs

out of the Geneva conference, and particularly that things can be clarified. I sincerely hope that France will be able to go to that conference with considerably more strength than she seems to have now. If she is in a position of strength to negotiate, perhaps we might be able to see peace in Indo-China. We sincerely hope so.

With respect to the matter of the European defence community, the minister said this afternoon that the UN is not effective enough as a deterrent to aggression and as a consequence we have had to fall back on regional pacts such as NATO, EDC and others. I believe that is right. It is unfortunate that the UN has been ineffective as a deterrent to aggression. I believe such things as NATO and EDC are things we must support. Let us sincerely hope that EDC is ratified by France. There is one thing I should like to say by way of warning. As we develop NATO and EDC, let us never fail to keep in mind some of the dangers into which we, in Canada, can get ourselves.

Here is a situation that perhaps the minister can explain to us. This afternoon he did not say anything about the Middle East, and today the Middle East holds a tremendous amount of interest for the world. If he had time one could speak of the difficulties between the Arab world and Israel. Upon the outcome of that problem hangs some measure, it seems to me, of the peace of the world. The thing that is in my mind at the moment is this. Pakistan has been having trouble with India for quite some time over Kashmir. I understand the situation there is not quite as acute as it was, but it has been fanned into something like acuteness of late by the fact Pakistan has accepted arms and assistance from the United States. India does not like that. In order to strengthen herself Pakistan has recently concluded a non-aggression pact with Turkey.

Turkey is a partner in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. I am just asking what would happen in case something flared up between Pakistan and India over, let us say, Kashmir, and Pakistan called on Turkey to fulfil her obligations under the non-aggression pact between them. If Turkey did, where would Canada be? What kind of decision would we have to make? We would be under the obligation of deciding at once whether we would abide by the terms of the NATO treaty and thus come to the help of our ally Turkey, and in that case probably be fighting our sister in the commonwealth, India, or whether we would forsake the NATO alliance and stand by India.

Mr. Philpott: Will the hon. member permit a question?

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Mr. Low: Yes.

Mr. Philpott: Surely he knows that one of the very specific terms of NATO is that the obligation under NATO is confined to territorial attacks in European areas of NATO, as the Prime Minister made very clear in India.

Mr. Low: I understand that perfectly, but do the people in Turkey, and do the people in Pakistan understand it? That is the question. To get them to understand is quite a problem. Those alliances within alliances have the habit of expanding, being misunderstood and being interpreted in different ways. I say that while I do not see any immediate danger, I am just pointing out by way of argument and warning what could happen if we continue to expand these intra-non-aggression pacts and all that sort of thing as a substitute for the United Nations. These are important things for us to keep in our minds. I just want to say at this point, also, as a substitute for the British commonwealth which has over the centuries been the greatest force for peace that the world has ever known.

I hope that it will be possible for EDC to be built up and to be ratified, because it is one of the only guarantees we have for western Europe to be able to defend itself against the dangers that threaten from the east. Before I conclude, Mr. Speaker, I should like to say a word about a matter that was raised in this house by the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggar. He raised a question about the withdrawal of certain pamphlets that were put out by the United Nations in the province of British Columbia. He said that he was disturbed to see that one of the departments of education, that is in the province of British Columbia, had withdrawn from circulation among the schools the United Nations' association monthly bulletin. He continued:

The bulletin, which has been circulated in all the provinces, including British Columbia, is now being withdrawn, according to a statement emanating from Victoria.

Well, as usual, some of the members of the press picked that out and played it up. One of them was a man by the name of John Stevenson. I do not believe I have ever seen the gentleman, but writing under the heading: "Ottawa Letter" in *Saturday Night* of March 6, he had this to say about it:

Nor has the prestige of this party been enhanced by the silly performance of the Social Credit ministry of British Columbia, in giving vent to the party's traditional dislike of international organizations of all kinds by banning from circulation in the province's schools literature of Canada's United Nations association.