

External Affairs

of an apparent change of emphasis and direction, but I will not.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Macquarrie: But I will tell the minister, if Liberal backbenchers will allow me, that my colleagues and I, rather than talking about last minute conversions, will support in every way any effort to make NATO a more viable and effective international organization.

I do wish that the minister had told us a little more about his conversations with officials of the European Economic Community. For example, I should like to know what progress was made in the very important area of penetration of markets that might very well be closed to us. I agree wholeheartedly with what the minister said about the situation in reference to Berlin, or at least as I understand what he said. I think we must stick by Chancellor Brandt who in this day and age is showing himself to be a very realistic, dedicated and sound statesman.

I would also tell the minister that he is quite right in suggesting that without the support of the multinational organization of NATO Chancellor Brandt would not have been able to move as far as he already has in the very important development of détente with East Germany. Whatever lies ahead, if that man, his people and his government can find a *modus vivendi* with East Germany, who are we in Canada to look askance at such a hopeful development? I think that NATO's involvement in this and its support of and co-operation with Chancellor Brandt are of tremendous importance.

• (2:20 p.m.)

The minister might have told us a bit more about his discussions with Mr. Schumann, the Foreign Minister of France. Sometimes there have been interesting developments between Canadian and French statesmen, not all of which were reported. The minister might have been a little bit more forthcoming on that but the fact that they talked is something that we put down in the positive column.

I noted too his reference in his statement to Japan. This is most important because there is a tremendous community of interest between Japan and Canada today. I believe this should be studied, furthered and developed. I hope that in all the activities in the field of summitry a move will be made to invite the Emperor of Japan to this country so that we may be able to discuss in fuller detail the great community of interests existing between our two countries.

I agree with what the minister said about Cyprus. We must work for a political settlement there. It is very depressing that year follows year and we still have a group of military people in Cyprus. Canada is doing at least as much as and indeed a great deal more than others in maintaining a peacekeeping group there, but the lack of progress toward a political settlement is depressing and disheartening. I think it is not enough merely to have military or paramilitary groups there maintaining a most uneasy status quo. We must move toward conciliation or mediation of this problem; otherwise, it seems to me that the whole United Nations operation is facetious, ill-

advised and not the kind to which we should lend our great support.

The minister also referred to his discussions with Mr. Palamas of Greece. We are all terribly disturbed by what has taken place in Greece and what has taken place for a long time in Portugal, but being a realist—and a conservative has to be a realist—I am often puzzled about what we can do under these circumstances. Do we go about the world and apply some unique diplomatic litmus test whereby we register those who are totally democratic and suitable to ourselves and expel all those who do not measure up to that standard, or do we withdraw? Are there any nations in the Commonwealth which are not totally democratic? Are there any nations in the United Nations which are not totally democratic by our standards? Indeed, if we carry our self-righteousness too far, I wonder what we do about a provincial premier who refuses to pay attention to how the voters vote. So we cannot carry that too far. I have always tried to be a man of détente, a man of peace, a reasoned and reasonable internationalist, but I would say that in the long run we have to underscore again the realities of the situation.

I am depressed by something the minister touched upon very lightly, the fact that the explorer, that very distinguished statesman, the former Secretary General of NATO, Dr. Manlio Brosio, has not yet been received by the nations of the Warsaw Pact. Until he has received a welcome there, how can we be realistic in our anticipation of an early move toward the détente which we all welcome? I am glad the minister mentioned the rebuff which Mr. Brosio is receiving. I hope that those who make a profession of a desire for détente from east to west will quickly move to accept that great statesman so that in a realistic and sensible way those of us who believe in NATO—and I hope Canada will continue to belong to NATO for a long time—may move toward a concentration upon the real problems of Europe and take firmer and fuller steps toward a more peaceful Europe and a more agreeable and sensible relationship among all the peoples of that great continent.

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, we in this party are naturally gratified that the forward moves on which the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp) has reported in regard to Europe, and which we have long advocated, now seem to be coming to fruition. I refer to the proposed European security conference and to the proposal for a mutual balanced force reductions in Europe.

I think the best news we have had in the international world recently has been the progress in regard to Berlin. In my view progress on Berlin—and I do not differ from the minister in this regard—is the key to normal and peaceful relations in Europe and, indeed, through Europe so far as Europe is concerned in the world. Unless there is a total dismantling of the massive confrontation of tactical nuclear weapons which still exists, there can be no real peace in the heart of Europe. I welcome the fact that in his statement the minister paid tribute to the Chancellor of West Germany, Mr. Brandt, because I believe his policy of Ostpolitik has opened the door to sanity in the relations between the European powers. I pay tribute to him myself for this development.