

*External Affairs*

straight, without in any way attempting to conduct a debate about the statements that have been made. I only wish that my regard otherwise for the hon. member who has just spoken could carry itself to a similar regard for his memory. I would point out that there are sitting on this side of the house a number of hon. members who in the years immediately before the war demonstrated both their faith in the commonwealth and their belief in preparing for a war that seemed to be coming.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order. Do I understand that the hon. gentleman's question of privilege arises out of something that took place during the speech of the hon. member for Vancouver South (Mr. Philpott)?

**Mr. Drew:** Mr. Speaker, I would not have risen if it had not.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** If so, may I say this. I listened carefully to the remarks of the hon. member for Vancouver South and I do not think that any question of privilege could arise.

**Mr. Drew:** Mr. Speaker, I am not going to enter into a debate with the Speaker but I am going to say emphatically that this is the first time I have heard any Speaker give a blank commendation of a speech that had just been given. I shall say no more.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order. May I say this. I merely carefully asked the Leader of the Opposition whether his question of privilege arose out of the remarks made by the hon. member for Vancouver South. I have listened carefully to the whole of that speech, and I do not think that any true question of privilege can arise. I should like to draw the attention of hon. members to citation 193 of Beauchesne's third edition, which reads in part as follows:

Members often raise so-called "questions of privilege" on matters which should be dealt with as personal explanations or corrections, either in the debates or the proceedings of the house.

I feel that anything that was said by the hon. member for Vancouver South could only be refuted, if necessary, at a future stage in the debate. I do not wish in any way to make a blanket ruling in advance because I very carefully asked the Leader of the Opposition what his question of privilege consisted of.

**Mr. Drew:** Mr. Speaker, I am not going to extend the debate beyond pointing out that I have already spoken and therefore cannot reply, and that you are denying me the privilege of making the comments that I proposed to make.

[Mr. Drew.]

**Mr. Gordon Churchill (Winnipeg South Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I do not propose following the hon. member for Vancouver South (Mr. Philpott) in some of the statements he has made except to express my regret that he should quite incorrectly find fault with the official opposition for its stand as far as the commonwealth is concerned. He quite incorrectly stated that members of the official opposition used the word "never" in connection with the recognition of China. I do not recall that word having been used on this side at all. He also quite incorrectly said that some member of the official opposition suggested an attack on the communist countries. These statements were uncalled for and are not at all in accordance with the facts.

My purpose in rising at the present time is to direct my attention chiefly to one topic, the importance of Indo-China and its relation to NATO and the European defence community, and to support in that regard the stand taken by my colleague, the hon. member for Vancouver-Quadra (Mr. Green). I think in the course of this debate our attention has not been sufficiently directed to the trouble spots of the world. The debate has ranged very far afield, and quite naturally, the subject being very large. But I had hoped that more particular attention would have been drawn to the trouble spots of the world. I had hoped that when the Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent) returned from his world trip he would have directed our attention to some of these trouble spots.

There have been other world travellers. It is only five or six months ago that the vice-president of the United States made his world tour and returned to report that "everything depends on Indo-China". When the Prime Minister returned his reference to that particular part of the globe was not very extensive. I note that on page 3333 of *Hansard* of March 25 the Prime Minister, in mentioning the grave concern of the whole world with respect to the fighting going on in Indo-China, said:

I had the distinct impression that most of the embarrassment felt by French leaders with respect to the European army was a consequence of the drain upon their human and material resources as a result of the fighting going on in Indo-China.

I suggest it was not necessary for the Prime Minister to go to Paris to gain that impression. I think it has been well recognized for the last two or three years that the troubles of France in Europe and in connection with NATO have arisen from her difficulties in Indo-China. The Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Pearson) is well aware of that problem and pointed it out